



# The Rani Elite

by Justin Richards

**THE DOCTOR: COLIN BAKER**

Time Lord and traveller.

**PERI: NICOLA BRYANT**

The Doctor's companion – recently returned to his side. Later 'possessed' by an aged alien countess.

**THE RANI [aka BAXTON]:**

An amoral Time Lady. She also masquerades as Professor Baxton, a respected middle-aged academic (adopts a different voice/accent).

**VICE CHANCELLOR:**

Late 30s, he's a bit stuffy but has done well for himself. Actually an aged alien in disguise.

**LIZZO:**

Another ancient alien who has 'stolen' the body of a young lizard-creature student. Confident and assertive. (We also meet the real Lizzo – nervous and frightened.)

**MIKLEV:**

Young student, very bright but doesn't really rate himself. Slightly diffident, but brave when it comes to it.

**REEV:**

A student whose body has been taken over by an ancient alien. Enjoying his newfound youth.

**ALSO: TUTOR** – Teaching at the CAGE university. Could be male or female. Or alien. (Scene 33 only.)

**DIRECTOR: NICHOLAS BRIGGS**

**SCRIPT EDITOR: ALAN BARNES**

**PRODUCER: DAVID RICHARDSON**

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: NICHOLAS BRIGGS & JASON HAIGH-ELLERY**

**PART ONE**

MUSIC: OPENING TITLES

**1. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM**

(FX: HUMMING EQUIPMENT. THE BLEEP OF A BRAINWAVE MONITOR.)

**LIZZO**

(GROGGY AND FRIGHTENED) No — please... Reev, what are you doing?

**REEV**

There's no need to be alarmed, Lizzo. The procedure will be over soon.

**LIZZO**

Everything's numb. Why's everything numb?

**REEV**

You've been sedated for your own good. Now, I promise you, this won't hurt.

(FX: EQUIPMENT OPERATED — UNPLEASANTLY LIKE A DENTIST'S DRILL  
CROSSED WITH A BLOWTORCH.)

**REEV**

Well, perhaps just a little...

**LIZZO**

(SCREAMS) No — no!!!

FADE OUT:

**2. EXT. CAMPUS COURTYARD – DAY**

(FX: THE CAMPUS OF A GALACTIC UNIVERSITY. DISTANT CHATTER AND LAUGHTER OF STUDENTS – A HUGE VARIETY OF LIFE FORMS, SO LOTS OF 'ALIEN' TYPE VOICES ETC THROUGHOUT. WE ARE IN A FAIRLY QUIET AREA, AS: THE TARDIS MATERIALISES. DOORS OPEN. THE DOCTOR AND PERI EMERGE.)

**DOCTOR**

Ah, taste that air!

**PERI**

It's just... air. Isn't it?

**DOCTOR**

Just air? It is the air of learning. The atmosphere of erudition. The oxygen of wisdom. Oh yes, this is the place all right.

**PERI**

It looks like we're between a municipal building and a public toilet.

**DOCTOR**

That is because I have cleverly landed the TARDIS out of sight so as to avoid attracting attention.

**PERI**

(LOW) It's not the TARDIS we need to keep out of sight.

**DOCTOR**

Can't afford to be mobbed by autograph hunters and press photographers as soon as we arrive, can we. Come on...

(THEY MOVE OFF:)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

And I heard that. I was just treating it with the contempt such a remark deserves.

(STAY WITH THEM AS THEY WALK. MIKLEV PUSHES PAST.)

**MIKLEV**

Excuse me – can I just...? Thanks!

**DOCTOR**

(BARGED) Oof! – Charming!

**PERI**

I think he was in a hurry.

**DOCTOR**

Evidently.

**PERI**

Doctor, are you sure we're in the right place?

**DOCTOR**

What does that say? That sign – yes, there. Read it. Out loud, if you please.

**PERI**

'Penalty for littering – [one hundred credits']

**DOCTOR**

Not that one. The sign, with the arrow, pointing.. Oh, never mind.

**PERI**

'Vice Chancellor's Office.'

**DOCTOR**

Yes, thank you, I can read. The point is – where do you get a Vice Chancellor?

**PERI**

A university.

**DOCTOR**

A university. And in this case, not just any university, but one of [the most prestigious...]

**PERI**

(PARROTING) ... the most prestigious academic institutions in the galaxy.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, this is the CAGE.

**PERI**

The what?

**DOCTOR**

The College of Advanced Galactic Education. One of the most prestigious – etcetera etcetera.

**PERI**

And this Cage place has given you an award.

**DOCTOR**

An award? An award?! They have bestowed upon my humble self an honorary degree in Moral Philosophy.

**PERI**

Moral Philosophy? What's that?

**DOCTOR**

Well, I'm not quite sure actually. But I'm certain it's well deserved.

**PERI**

For doing what?

**DOCTOR**

No idea. But the Vice Chancellor should know. He invited me here.

(FX: THEY MOVE ON, FADING AS THEY GO:)

**PERI**

So how did they get in touch?

**DOCTOR**

I keep a post office box in Reigate.

**PERI**

Reigate? Why?

**DOCTOR**

So people can get in touch. Come on, Peri – keep up. Anyone would think you were embarrassed to be seen with me...

FADE OUT:

**3. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM – DAY**

(FX: THE DRILL-BLOWTORCH STOPS.)

**LIZZO**

(BREATHING HEAVILY, IN PAIN)

**REEV**

That's the primary phase complete.

**LIZZO**

My head... Reev – please... What have you done to my head?

**REEV**

Once your alpha-wave readings have returned to an acceptable level we can [move to phase 2]

(FX: HE BREAKS OFF AS LIZZO HURLS HERSELF AT HIM, JUMPING UP FROM THE OPERATING TABLE AND KNOCKING REEV ASIDE.)

**REEV**

(SHOVED) Oof!

(FX: SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS ETC CLATTER TO THE FLOOR AS SHE RUNS OUT.)

**REEV**

(CALLING) Lizzo – Lizzo, come back! You can't escape. You're only postponing the inevitable..

CUT TO:

**4. INT. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE — DAY**

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

It takes years of study.

**DOCTOR**

I beg your pardon?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Years and years. As Vice Chancellor of this establishment, I think I can say that without fear of contradiction. So which of you actually wishes to study for their doctorate?

**DOCTOR**

What?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

And in what discipline, may I ask? We offer doctorates in most subjects — Logistical Astronomy, Galactic Civilisation, Quantum Nucleonics, Hip-Hop-Hap Theory..

**DOCTOR**

I already have a doctorate. Several, in fact. Some in disciplines that haven't even been invented yet... Look, Vice Chancellor, let me see if I can explain.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Please do. You're already a doctor, you say?

**DOCTOR**

Not just a doctor.

**PERI**

This is THE Doctor. You invited him here.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

I did? Oh — THE Doctor? Yes, yes, I did.

**PERI**

To give him an honorary degree.

**DOCTOR**

Which, of course, I shall be delighted to accept.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Ah. No.

**PERI**

No?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

No.

**DOCTOR**

No?!

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

This is where the confusion arises you see.

**DOCTOR**

Not really.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

It's tomorrow.

**DOCTOR**

Is it? I'm sure it was today when we arrived.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

The Carlos Milhaven awards ceremony is tomorrow. Named after one of our illustrious sponsors. Tomorrow, not today. So I was expecting you tomorrow.

**PERI**

Doctor – we're a day early.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, thank, you, I'll handle this, Peri. Are you saying we are a day early?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Precisely.

**DOCTOR**

Well, I do like to be precise.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

There is a lot to see. As you're here, you're very welcome to avail yourself of any or all of our amenities.

**DOCTOR**

Thank you. Come along, Peri – let us avail ourselves.

**PERI**

Thank you, Vice Chancellor. We'll see you tomorrow.



**VICE CHANCELLOR**

I look forward to it. As, I'm sure, will Professor Baxton.

**DOCTOR**

(IMPRESSED) Professor Baxton? Now she's something of a legend in academic circles. The galaxy's foremost Moral Philosopher. Her name is venerated among the cognoscenti.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(WARY) You know the professor?

**DOCTOR**

Well, we have met. But it was a long time ago, and I had a different face back then.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

I'm sorry?

**DOCTOR**

Oh don't apologise. We'll see you tomorrow.

(FX: THE DOCTOR SWEEPS OUT.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Yes. Either myself or Professor Baxton can sort you out then.

**DOCTOR**

(CALLING BACK) Peri!

**PERI**

Actually, I don't think anyone can sort the Doctor out.

(FX: SHE EXITS.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(LOW, SINISTER) Oh, I think we can, young lady. I think we can.

CUT TO:

**5. EXT. CAMPUS AREA — DAY**

(FX: AS THEY WALK:)

**DOCTOR**

There is something distinctly odd going on here.

**PERI**

Just because they didn't hang out the bunting and hire the brass band a day early.

**DOCTOR**

I said my timing was precise, Peri, and I meant it. Precisely one day early. Precisely because something is odd.

**PERI**

You mean, you planned for us to arrive early?

**DOCTOR**

Precisely.

**PERI**

But why?

**DOCTOR**

That, my dear Peri, is the question. Ah — perhaps that will help.

**PERI**

What is it?

**DOCTOR**

Information access booth. A bit like tourist information. Only helpful.

CUT TO:

**6. INT. INFORMATION ACCESS BOOTH – CONTINUOUS**

(FX: AN ENCLOSED SPACE INSIDE THE SMALL BOOTH.)

**DOCTOR**

Incredible – this booth is actually smaller on the inside.  
Right, let's see...

(FX: BEEPS AND WHIRRS ETC AS THE DOCTOR WORKS THE MACHINE.)

**PERI**

You getting anywhere with that?

**DOCTOR**

I most certainly am. All candidates for honorary degrees are nominated through a complicated voting system involving the academic staff and ratified by the governing board. All candidates in the history of the university, except one.

**PERI**

Guess who.

**DOCTOR**

My nomination was pushed through by the Vice Chancellor as a *fait accompli*.

**PERI**

But, isn't that a good thing?

**DOCTOR**

Somehow I don't think so. There is a reason why I was invited here. And it wasn't to get a degree.

CUT TO:

**7. EXT. CAMPUS AREA – CONTINUOUS**

(FX: DOCTOR AND PERI EXIT THE BOOTH.)

**PERI**

Whatever they want, it's something to do with you.

**DOCTOR**

Obviously.

**PERI**

No, I mean – it's not like they need someone clever.

**DOCTOR**

What exactly are you implying, Miss Brown?

**PERI**

This is a prestigious space university. They have clever people already.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, I do see what you mean.

**PERI**

So it's you they want. The Doctor, in person.

**DOCTOR**

Accept no substitutes... But how do we discover the truth? I mean clues aren't just going to wander up to us and ask for [help]

(FX: AS HE SPEAKS, LIZZO RUNS UP – AGITATED, OUT OF BREATH, FRIGHTENED FOR HER LIFE.)

**LIZZO**

Help me – please, help me! They're after me. Please, I don't know who's involved but you're outsiders, so...

**PERI**

Is it that obvious?

**LIZZO**

So perhaps I can trust you.

**DOCTOR**

You most certainly can trust us. You're a Garnantian, aren't you?

**LIZZO**

Yes, but [I need your help]

**DOCTOR**

Thought I recognised the species. Cold-blooded, green scaly skin, the segmented tail...

**PERI**

Doctor – she needs help! She’s terrified – look at her.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, of course. Well, if we can help, we will. This is Peri, and I’m the Doctor – perhaps you’ve heard of me? No? Getting an honorary degree tomorrow? Still no? You’d better tell us all about it, um – what’s your name?

**LIZZO**

Lizzo. Please – my head hurts...

**DOCTOR**

Let me see... Who did this to you? These cuts, and these burns – these are exactly the marks a Sidelian Brain Scanner would leave.

**LIZZO**

I don’t know what it was. I don’t know what they want from me.

**DOCTOR**

Well, that’s easily answered. They want to steal your brain.

FADE OUT:

**8. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY FOYER – CONTINUOUS**

(FADE IN. FX: AUTOMATIC DOORS SWOOSH OPEN. THE DOCTOR, PERI AND LIZZO ENTER.)

**PERI**

This is the Medical Facility, right? – Well, there's no-one here now.

**LIZZO**

They will be looking for me.

**DOCTOR**

So they won't expect you to find you in here, will they?

**PERI**

I still say we should go to someone in authority. Like the Vice Chancellor.

**DOCTOR**

I don't know who to trust any more than Lizzo does. The Vice Chancellor could up to his academic eyebrows in whatever is going on. He's the one who invited me here, remember?

**PERI**

I suppose.

**DOCTOR**

And I want to get a look at the Sidelian equipment. In purely chronological terms, it shouldn't have been invented yet. Now, Lizzo, where in this Facility did you escape from exactly?

**LIZZO**

Somewhere on the lower levels. An operating room. They gave me a sedative. I don't think it was enough.

**PERI**

You felt it?

**LIZZO**

I escaped.

**DOCTOR**

And you've no idea why this student, what did you say his name was? Reev? You've no idea why he would have done this to you?

**LIZZO**

No. He always seemed very friendly. Clever, but quiet.

**PERI**

They're the worst. And the noisy ones, they're the worst too.

**DOCTOR**

Let's see if we can find this operating room, then. You up to that, Lizzo?

**LIZZO**

I think so.

**DOCTOR**

Good girl.

(FX: MORE DOORS AS THEY GO INSIDE THE FACILITY. FADE THEM AS THEY GO:)

**PERI**

There's an elevator down here.

**DOCTOR**

She means a 'lift', Lizzo. It's all right - I'll translate for you if we continue to get bombarded with trans-Atlantic inexactitudes...

FADE OUT:

**9. EXT. CAMPUS AREA — DAY**

(FX: STUDENTS MILLING ABOUT. REEV RUNS UP.)

**REEV**

(URGENT) Anyone seen Lizzo? Anyone?

**MIKLEV**

Oh, hi, Reev. She was at the Geometric Calculus seminar this morning if that helps?

**REEV**

Not really, but thanks... (TO HIMSELF) She might have doubled back. I'll have to get help..

(FX: REEV HURRIES OFF.)

CUT TO:



**10. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY LOWER CORRIDOR – DAY**

**PERI**

There's another room at the end. Looks like some kind of laboratory.

**DOCTOR**

Not an operating room?

**PERI**

Don't think so.

**LIZZO**

(GROAN OF PAIN) My head. It feels like it is on fire.

**DOCTOR**

Disadvantage of a cold-blooded species...

**PERI**

Would it help if we bathed your head with cold water?

**LIZZO**

It might.

**DOCTOR**

Good idea, Peri. We could try that lab... Aha – or this store room. Might find something useful in here.

(FX: STORE ROOM DOOR SLIDES OPEN.)

CUT TO:

**11. INT. STORE ROOM – CONTINUOUS**

(FX: THEY ENTER.)

**DOCTOR**

Mind you don't trip on the hermetic seal. –

**PERI**

An airtight storeroom? Why?

**LIZZO**

Chemicals stored here. See, on the shelves?

**DOCTOR**

Good point. – That large cupboard is interesting.

(FX: PERI RATTLES THE CUPBOARD DOOR.)

**PERI**

It's locked.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, it would be. But here's a basin... Pop the plug in, and... Hmmm, tap's a bit stiff. Ah!

(FX: HE MANAGES TO TURN THE TAP, COLD WATER FLOWING SLOWLY.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

Peri, you must be able to find a hanky in a pocket somewhere.

(FX: SOME RUMMAGING, THEN:)

**PERI**

Here you are.

**DOCTOR**

Thank you. I did actually mean in one of your own pockets rather than mine. But I suppose we all have to make sacrifices.

(FX: WETS HANKY AND BATHES LIZZO'S HEAD. TAP STILL RUNNING.)

**LIZZO**

Thank you, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

That better?

**LIZZO**

It helps.

(FX: REEV IS COMING DOWN THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE.)

**PERI**

(LOUD WHISPER) Someone's coming.

**LIZZO**

(PANIC) They will find me. They want my brain!

(FX: LIZZO RUNS OFF — HEADING AWAY FROM REEV.)

**PERI**

(CALLING) No — Lizzo, wait!

(FX: THE DOCTOR TURNS OFF THE TAP. IT CREAKS.)

**DOCTOR**

(EFFORT) Stupid tap. They need a plumber not a Doctor.

**PERI**

(URGENT) Doctor — Lizzo's gone. She ran down a side corridor.

**DOCTOR**

That's it. Right, come on...

(FX: TAP STILL DRIPPING. DOCTOR AND PERI EXIT. DOOR SLIDES SHUT. STAY WITH THE DRIPPING TAP FOR JUST A MOMENT.)

CUT TO:

**12. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY LOWER CORRIDOR – CONTINUOUS**

**PERI**

We have to get after her.

**DOCTOR**

We certainly do – she's still got my hanky.

**REEV**

(CALLING) Hey, you two! What are you doing down here? This is a restricted area.

**DOCTOR**

That's all right. We're just looking.

**PERI**

Just leaving too. Back to the elevat- the lift?

(FX: THEY HEAD DOWN THE CORRIDOR.)

FADE OUT:

**13. INT. LIBRARY – DAY**

(FX: FADE IN. THE DOCTOR AND PERI SPEAK QUIETLY.)

**PERI**

'The Mira Vandweezi Library'. Why should Lizzo be hiding here?

**DOCTOR**

I very much doubt she is.

**PERI**

Then what are we doing here?

**DOCTOR**

She could be hiding anywhere, and we can hardly search the whole campus. No, the best way to help Lizzo now is to find out what's really going on.

**PERI**

You're worried about this Sidelian brain thing?

**DOCTOR**

I am. And I don't want to ruffle too many questions or raise too many feathers before we know a bit more about what we're dealing with.

**PERI**

Hence the university library.

**DOCTOR**

Indeed. Don't worry – we'll find Lizzo.

**PERI**

How? There are no books. How can you have a library with no books?

**DOCTOR**

The books are all digitised. Data and information rather than paper and print. But for what it's worth, I agree with you. There's nothing like the smell of a real library – leather binding, yellowing paper, the knowledge of the centuries scratched out on parchment by men of learning...

**PERI**

So where do we start?

**DOCTOR**

University Information System. Here we are.

(FX: ELECTRONIC NOISES AS THE **DOCTOR** WORKS AT A TERMINAL.)

**PERI**

Are these all the students?

**DOCTOR**

That's right. A mini-biog for each. The students are supposed to keep them up to date, and when they leave it forms a record of their time here.

**PERI**

Is Lizzo in there?

**DOCTOR**

Just what I was... Ah yes – here we are. Let's play the latest entry.

(IN THE PLAYBACK LIZZO IS HAPPY, UPBEAT, LAUGHING.)

**LIZZO**

(PLAYBACK) So, my final year. [I can't believe it. This time next year I'll be – well, I don't know where I'll be. I wonder what Raych and Chanksy and the others will be doing. I'll miss them – we've had some laughs...]

(OVER THE SQUARE-BRACKETED SECTION:)

**PERI**

She seems so happy.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, she does. Her whole life ahead of her.

**PERI**

I hope she's all right.

**DOCTOR**

We'll make sure she is.

**LIZZO**

(PLAYBACK) ...I've got to pass the exams first of course. Though Professor Baxton has predicted me a Highest on her learning stream, which is amazing...

(FX: PLAYBACK CLICKS OFF.)

**DOCTOR**

That was just a few days ago.

**PERI**

I can't believe it's the same person. What happened to her?

(FX: VARIOUS DATA RETRIEVAL NOISES AS:)

**DOCTOR**

I don't know... Ah, this is interesting, look – Lizzo's seminar group, complete with pictures.

**PERI**

Hey, isn't that –

**DOCTOR**

The rude young man who pushed past us when we arrived, yes. Miklev, apparently. Studying First-Phase Geo-Tolerance and Moral Philosophy.

**PERI**

Maybe we can find him. He might know what's going on.

**DOCTOR**

My thoughts exactly. At least we know he's not hiding. Here, take this.

(FX: A CLICK AND A BLEEP AS THE DOCTOR REMOVES A DATACUBE.)

**PERI**

What is it?

**DOCTOR**

Datacube. I've copied Lizzo's whole journal on to it. Could be useful.

**PERI**

I always meant to keep a journal when I was a student. Never got round to it.

**DOCTOR**

Well there's plenty of room on the cube if you want to start now. Press your thumb against that red side, and hold it like... so. There. When you're done just release the pressure, and *voila*.

**PERI**

Student recording.

**DOCTOR**

Now let's see if we can track down this Miklev. Why don't you have a look outside? This library seems to be at a major junction of all the footpaths – you never know, he might wander past.

**PERI**

Like before. What about you?

**DOCTOR**

I'll see if I can call up his timetable on this terminal. I shan't be long...

(FX: A RATHER 'NEGATIVE' BLEEP FROM THE TERMINAL.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

I hope...

**PERI**

Yeah, right. I'll see you soon.

(FX: MORE DOWNBEAT TERMINAL NOISES. PERI LEAVES.)

**DOCTOR**

Yes, I know I'm not authorised, you stupid machine... That's why I'm bypassing the security systems...

(FX: AN ALARM.)

**A FEW STUDENTS:**

('SH' IRRITABLY)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

(SIGHS) Typical. Just typical. (CALLING) Sorry, everyone. Sorry – I think I pressed the wrong button. Nothing nefarious, nothing suspicious... Um, could someone...?

(FX: THE ALARM CUTS OUT.)

**MIKLEV**

There you are. That should be fine now. If I can do anything else to help – (just say)

**DOCTOR**

Indeed you can. – Miklev, isn't it?

**MIKLEV**

That's right. Hey, didn't I see you earlier? When I was late for the Quantum Redaction seminar?



**DOCTOR**

You certainly did. I wonder if I could have a quick word with you...

FADE OUT:

**14. EXT. OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY – DAY**

(FX: WE JOIN PERI MID-WAY THROUGH RECORDING HER 'LOG'. FAINT 'WHIRR' OF THE RECORDER:)

**PERI**

... If I even see college again. I somehow doubt they'll have kept my place open for all these years. Guess I'd be a mature student now. – But travelling with the Doctor is certainly an education. It's like doing social service too, I guess. We help people. There are a lot of people who need helping. For all his brashness and posturing, the Doctor always stands up for what's right. Truth, justice, and the Gallifreyan way. He doesn't seem to care that one day it might get him killed. Actually, I've seen him die. He died for me. He thought I was worth saving. I sometimes wonder if one day, I'll end up returning the favour. This is crazy, it's like I'm writing my own obituary. Oh – here he comes now. Cue danger and excitement.

(FX: PERI CLICKS OFF THE CUBE. THE DOCTOR ARRIVES, WITH MIKLEV.)

**DOCTOR**

Peri – meet Miklev.

**PERI**

Hi there.

**MIKLEV**

Um, hello.

**DOCTOR**

Miklev was telling me he knows our mutual friend Lizzo.

**PERI**

Really?

**MIKLEV**

Well, we're in the same lecture group. I see her around.

**PERI**

When did you last see her?

**MIKLEV**

This morning, like I told the Doctor. She seemed fine. I don't know why you're worried about her.

**DOCTOR**

She just seemed a little 'down' when we saw her.

**MIKLEV**

She was OK at the seminar. It's funny, Reev was looking for her just now as well.

**PERI**

Reev? But that's – (the student who attacked Lizzo)

**DOCTOR**

Yes, Peri... And you haven't seen Lizzo since then.

**MIKLEV**

Actually, yes. Talking of Reev reminds me – she had to go and do an extra test, I think.

**PERI**

What's that got to do with Reev?

**MIKLEV**

Just that he took the test a while back. A few of the students have done it recently.

**DOCTOR**

Have you taken this extra test?

**MIKLEV**

No, not me. It's the brainy ones who get selected.

**DOCTOR**

And then they return to their normal curriculum afterwards?

**MIKLEV**

Yes, why wouldn't they?

**DOCTOR**

No reason. No reason at all.

**MIKLEV**

Though... Well, don't tell anyone I said so, but with some of them... Like Reev...

**PERI**

What?

**MIKLEV**

It does go to their heads a bit.

**DOCTOR**

Their heads?

**MIKLEV**

Well, they hang out together, ignore the rest of us – even people who used to be friends. I got on all right with Reev, but since he took the test he just blanks me.

**PERI**

Sounds like this test isn't a good thing.

**MIKLEV**

A couple of the quieter ones, who wouldn't say boo to a gastropod, have really come out of themselves. Maybe that's a good thing?

**DOCTOR**

A personality change?

**MIKLEV**

I'll say. Shy and retiring one day, partying like there's no tomorrow the next. Look, sorry – I have to go, I've got a lecture with Professor Baxton over in H7. If Lizzo's there, I'll tell her you're looking for her. Catch you later, yeah?

**PERI**

Yeah.

**DOCTOR**

(MIMICKING) Yeah.

(FX: MIKLEV HURRIES OFF.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

Come on then, Peri.

**PERI**

Where to?

**DOCTOR**

H7 of course. It's a long shot, but if Lizzo should be at that lecture... maybe she'll show up...

(FADE OUT AS THEY FOLLOW MIKLEV.)

**15. EXT. CAMPUS AREA — DAY**

(FX: LIZZO BREATHING HEAVILY — FRIGHTENED AND EXHAUSTED. STUDENTS APPROACHING:)

**REEV**

(OFF, CALLING) Sure she must have come this way.

**LIZZO**

(TO HERSELF) Oh no. Not again. I can't...

**REEV**

(OFF) There she is! Come on, before she gets away.

(FX: LIZZO RUNS FOR IT. BUT THE STUDENTS CATCH HER — A SCUFFLE.)

**LIZZO**

Let me go — please let me go!

**REEV**

No chance. We have some unfinished business. In the Medical Facility.

**LIZZO**

No — no, please!

(FX: THEY DRAG THE PROTESTING **LIZZO** AWAY.)

FADE OUT:

**16. INT. LECTURE THEATRE – DAY**

(FX: FADE IN. WE ARE AT THE END OF A LECTURE, STUDENTS GETTING RESTLESS. DOCTOR AND PERI SIDLE IN THROUGH A DOOR AS BAXTON SPEAKS.)

**BAXTON**

...The application of Chaos Theory places an additional burden on Moral Philosophy.

**PERI**

(ASIDE) That's Professor Baxton?

**DOCTOR**

(STARTLED) It... would appear so, yes.

(NB: THE DOCTOR HAS RECOGNISED THE RANI. BUT UNTIL HE KNOWS WHAT SHE'S UP TO, HE'S NOT LETTING ON TO PERI.)

**BAXTON**

If there are indeed patterns in apparently random events as diverse as the formation of a snowflake or the flow of galactic traffic round the Horsehead Nebula excursion route, then can we be certain that any decision we make truly be our own?

**PERI**

Still no sign of Lizzo. The place is packed – guess she must be an impressive speaker.

**DOCTOR**

True enough. Though I have to say she's not entirely as I remember...

**BAXTON**

There's time for a couple of questions if anyone has... You?!

(SHE IS THROWN FOR A MOMENT – THIS ISN'T THE INCARNATION OF THE DOCTOR SHE WAS EXPECTING. BUT SHE COVERS QUICKLY:)

**BAXTON**

Er, yes – you, by the door. The mature student in the 'interesting' coat.

**DOCTOR**

(PITCHED UP) 'Mature'? – Yes, well.

**PERI**

(LOW) This could be embarrassing. Maybe I should preserve it for posterity.

(FX: FAINT 'WHIRR' AS PERI RECORDS THIS...)

(NB: UNDERCURRENT TO FOLLOWING: THE DOCTOR AND 'BAXTON' EACH KNOW WHO THE OTHER REALLY IS, BUT PLAY ALONG.)

**DOCTOR**

You appear to imply that Chaos Theory might somehow influence our individual decisions. If your contention is that we're not responsible for our own actions, or even thoughts, aren't you rather ducking the issue of morality?

**BAXTON**

Am I?

**DOCTOR**

I believe so. If nothing else, I'd have thought an academic of your reputation and calibre would have an opinion on the whole question of whether the end justifies the means, rather than ascribing it all to the ebb and flow of the universe. Perhaps you could tell us exactly where you stand on the issue? Hmm?

**BAXTON**

Or perhaps I think my opinions are my own business, and each and every student should be allowed to make up their own minds. It was you who brought up freedom of choice, I think. – Does anyone have a less specious query?

**PERI**

(LOW) That told you.

**BAXTON**

Nobody? – (SIGH; WHAT A BUNCH OF DULLARDS) Very well. Until next time. Lecture over.

(FX: CLATTERING AS STUDENTS GET UP EN MASSE AND BEGIN TO EXIT. PERI CLICKS OFF HER RECORDING.)

**PERI**

Well that was... interesting. But it doesn't help us find Lizzo.

**DOCTOR**

No. But it was most enlightening, all the same.

**17. INT. STORE ROOM — DAY**

(FX: THE TAP IS STILL DRIPPING, NOW INTO A FULL SINK.  
WATER SLOSHES TO THE FLOOR...)

CUT TO:



**18. INT. FOYER OUTSIDE THE LECTURE THEATRE – DAY**

(FX: STUDENTS PASSING BY.)

**PERI**

So what's our next move?

**DOCTOR**

I think I'll check the university records and find out what these tests for the gifted and talented students really are.

**PERI**

How can you do that?

**DOCTOR**

Talk to the Vice Chancellor. Or his computer at least. If the tests are bona fide, there'll be records. And if not...

**PERI**

If not?

**DOCTOR**

I'll tell you later.

**PERI**

You don't want [me to come with you?]

**DOCTOR**

I'll be less conspicuous on my own.

**PERI**

That's a matter of opinion... (BRIGHTLY) Why don't I go talk to Professor Baxton? She might know something about [the tests.]

**DOCTOR**

(QUICKLY) No! – No, Peri, I think it's probably best to keep out of the Professor's way for now.

**PERI**

But if she knows something that could help...?

**DOCTOR**

We've already drawn quite enough attention to ourselves for the moment. Let me speak to the Vice Chancellor first.

**PERI**

Well, one of us has. Look, Doctor – [all I want to do...]

**DOCTOR**

Peri!

**PERI**

All right. I'll meet you back at the Library.

**DOCTOR**

I won't be long, I promise. (WALKING, CALLING BACK) But be careful. There's something very wrong here.

(HE'S GONE)

**PERI**

(TO HERSELF) That's if I can remember the way to the Library. All these plazas look the same to — (BREAKS OFF) Oh look, there's Professor Baxton!

(FX: STAY WITH PERI AS SHE FOLLOWS BAXTON.)

**PERI**

(CALLING) Professor! Professor Baxton, can I just have a moment?

**BAXTON**

(STOPPING) Hello. Another of my mature students, are you?

**PERI**

(SLIGHTLY MIFFED) Er, no. — But I was at your lecture.

**BAXTON**

Oh yes. With the rather forthright gentleman.

**PERI**

I had a few questions. About the lecture..

**BAXTON**

You'll have to wait until next time, I'm afraid. Life's too short for one thing, and for another I have an appointment at the Medical Facility. So if you'll excuse me.

(FX: BAXTON HURRIES OFF, LEAVING PERI BEHIND.)

**PERI**

But why would you be going... (QUIETER, AS BAXTON'S GONE) ... to the Medical Facility?

(FX: SHE HURRIES OFF AFTER BAXTON. FADE TO:)

**19. INT. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE — DAY**

(FADE IN FX: A KNOCK AT THE DOOR.)

**DOCTOR**

(FROM OUTSIDE) Hello? Vice Chancellor? Anyone home?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(SIGHS) You again, Doctor?

(FX: DOOR OPENS. DOCTOR ENTERS.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR (CONT'D)**

What is it now? Run out of things to do already?

**DOCTOR**

I have more than enough to do, thank you. And the most important thing I have to do is warn you.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Warn me? About what?

**DOCTOR**

Professor Baxton.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Professor Baxton? Doctor, you said yourself that Professor Baxton is one of the most respected and [notable academics...]

**DOCTOR**

That was before I met her. And she is nothing of the sort.

CUT TO:

**20. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM – DAY**

(FX: AN OPERATING ROOM, WITH BLEEPING EQUIPMENT, HEART MONITOR, ETC. PERI CREEPS IN.)

**PERI**

(SHOCKED) Lizzo!

**LIZZO**

(WEAK) Peri – is that you?

**PERI**

What have they done to you? Why are you all wired up like this? What's this equipment?

**LIZZO**

How – how did you find me?

**PERI**

I was following Professor Baxton, but I got lost. It was like someone moved the walls round.

**LIZZO**

Baxton?

**PERI**

Yes, let me help you. Who did this to you?

**LIZZO**

Professor Baxton.

**PERI**

Yes, I said.

**BAXTON**

(OFF) I think she was answering your question.

**PERI**

(GASPS) Professor Baxton!

**21. INT. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE — DAY**

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

I thought you said you'd already met her.

**DOCTOR**

Indeed I have. And the Professor Baxton you have lecturing here is not the Professor Baxton I remember.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

As we get older, the memory sometimes cheats...

**DOCTOR**

Not my memory. I don't know how she's done it. Falsified files, rectified records, changed every reference to and picture of the real Professor in all the databases in the galaxy, but I can assure you that the woman who calls herself Professor Baxton is nothing of the sort.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Then... Who is she?

CUT TO:

**22. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM – DAY**

**BAXTON**

Let me just increase the flow of neural suppressors.

(FX: BLEEPs. EQUIPMENT RESPONDS)

**LIZZO**

(FADING) No – help me... Please... So tired...

**BAXTON**

Now we won't be interrupted. – I'm sorry about the way the walls moved to bring you here. One of the beauties of a magna-struct building, don't you think... (DROPPING BAXTON VOICE) ... Peri?

**PERI**

I have no idea what you're talking a-[bout]. (BREAKS OFF) Wait a minute – how do you know my name?

**RANI**

Oh don't be so naive.

**PERI**

You know who I am?

**RANI**

I couldn't believe it when I saw you and the Doctor at my lecture. Not exactly the Doctor I was expecting, but one can't have everything.

**PERI**

Who are you?

**RANI**

You really don't recognise me? You must know that Time Lords can regenerate.

**PERI**

A Time Lord?! But – that means... No, you can't be.

**RANI**

You see, you do know me after all. I knew you would. – Spit it out, girl, I can see it's on the tip of your tongue!

**PERI**

The Rani!

**END OF PART ONE**

**PART TWO**

MUSIC: OPENING TITLES

**REPRISE:**

**RANI**

*You really don't recognise me? You must know that Time Lords can regenerate.*

**PERI**

*A Time Lord?! But – that means... No, you can't be.*

**RANI**

*You see, you do know me after all. I knew you would. – Spit it out, girl, I can see it's on the tip of your tongue!*

**PERI**

*The Rani!*

(CONTINUES INTO:)

**23. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM – DAY [CONTINUOUS]**

**RANI**

*And now that we've got the tedious salutations out of the way, I think you'd better come with me. If, that is, you want to live.*

CUT TO:

**24. INT. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE — DAY**

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

'The Rani'? Doctor, forgive me for asking but are you quite sane?

**DOCTOR**

Sane? Sane?! I'm not the amoral sociopath passing myself off as a noted academic.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

With respect, I only have your word for that. If we access the central galactic registry...

(FX: Bleeps from the terminal as Vice Chancellor pulls up information.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

... You can see for yourself. Professor Baxton's curriculum vitae along with vid-pix.

**DOCTOR**

And as I told you, she's changed it. Or got one of her tame students to do it. I don't know what she's up to but it must be something to do with... Here, let me...

(FX: MORE COMPUTER ACCESS NOISES.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Be my guest. What are you looking for, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

Yes, these must be the tests I was told about.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

I can assure you everything is in order. The last Optimex Inspection gave us a triple-A rating.

**DOCTOR**

Really? That is impressive. And they inspected this Gifted and Talented programme of yours, did they?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Of course. If you've seen enough..?

**DOCTOR**

What? Oh yes, thank you. Now, what are you going to do about the Rani? — I mean 'Professor Baxton'?



**VICE CHANCELLOR**

I really don't see what I can do. Unless you can give me some proof that Professor Baxton is an imposter, I have no reason to do anything.

**DOCTOR**

You mean my word is not enough?!

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

That is exactly what I mean.

**DOCTOR**

Then I shall get you proof. (GOES TO DOOR)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Please do. Now if you will excuse me — (FX: DOOR CLOSES BEHIND DOCTOR) ... I am rather busy.

FADE OUT:

**25. EXT. CAMPUS AREA — DAY**

(FADE IN: DOCTOR WALKING. MIKLEV RUNS UP, CALLING:)

**MIKLEV**

Doctor — Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

Oh hello, Miklev. You haven't see Peri, have you?

**MIKLEV**

Not for a while. But I have just seen Lizzo.

**DOCTOR**

Lizzo? Where? Is she all right?

**MIKLEV**

She looked fine. She went that way, towards the Valadska Building.

**DOCTOR**

Well don't just stand there, show me! Come on, come on.

**MIKLEV**

Of course. This way...

(FX: THEY RUSH OFF. CROSS TO:)

**26. EXT. ANOTHER CAMPUS AREA — CONTINUOUS**

(FX: LIZZO IS LAUGHING WITH FRIENDS. NOTE THAT FROM NOW ON LIZZO IS POSSESSED; A HARDER, 'ALIEN' CHARACTER.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

...So I thought tonight I'd head off to the laser-dance. There's so much to do. I haven't felt this energetic in years!

**REEV**

It's amazing, isn't it?

(FX: MORE LAUGHTER AT THIS — COME OF IT RATHER ALIEN. THE DOCTOR AND MIKLEV ARRIVE BREATHLESS.)

**DOCTOR**

Lizzo!

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(SURPRISED) What? Who are you?

**REEV**

Got a new friend, Miklev?

**MIKLEV**

This is the Doctor. Lizzo, you remember.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(DISMISSIVE) Oh yeah, sure. Doctor. Look, I'm a bit busy right now. But if you're at the laser-dance tonight [maybe I'll see you there]

**DOCTOR**

Laser-dance? Do I look like I laser-dance?

**REEV**

You look like you might do anything in that outfit.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

So, what do you lecture in? Fashion?

(FX: LIZZO LAUGHS — HER FRIENDS JOIN IN.)

**MIKLEV**

That's a bit rude, Lizzo. He only wanted to make sure you're OK.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Butt out, Miklev. Mr Rainbow Coat can ask for himself if he's interested.

**DOCTOR**

You seem to have made a remarkable recovery.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Oh... that. Sorry – yes, I was a bit... Well, you know. Anyway, I'm fine now.

**DOCTOR**

So I see.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

And thanks for all your help. But it's all sorted out now. So – maybe see you at the dance?

(FX: SHE MOVES OFF WITH HER FRIENDS, EXCEPT REEV.)

[**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(FADING) So where shall we go now? Anyone else hungry? I can't wait to try a megaburger...]

(OVER THIS:)

**MIKLEV**

Look, Doctor – I have a seminar in a few minutes, so I have to dash. But if I can help...?

**DOCTOR**

You get along to your seminar. I'll find Peri and we'll see you later.

**REEV**

(COLDLY) See you, Miklev.

**MIKLEV**

Yeah, bye Reev.

(FX: MIKLEV LEAVES.)

**REEV**

Weren't you at Professor Baxton's lecture, 'Doctor'?

**DOCTOR**

I was. How very observant of you.

**REEV**

You're not hard to remember. You say you're looking for your friend?

**DOCTOR**

You've seen her?

**REEV**

Just a few minutes ago, yes.

**DOCTOR**

Could you tell me where?

**REEV**

Probably easiest if I show you.

**DOCTOR**

Thank you.

**REEV**

No problem. It's this way..

(FX: THEY WALK. CROSSFADE TO:)

**27. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY FOYER – DAY**

(FADE IN FX: DOOR SLIDES OPEN AND THE DOCTOR AND REEV ENTER. DOOR CLOSSES BEHIND THEM AS THEY TALK.)

**DOCTOR**

Now, why would Peri have gone back to the Medical Facility? – Unless...

**REEV**

She was with Professor Baxton.

**DOCTOR**

Of course she was. – Why does she never listen to anything I say?

**REEV**

Just through here, Doctor.

(FX: INTERNAL DOOR OPENS AND THEY GO THROUGH.)

CUT TO:

**28. INT. OFFICE IN MEDICAL FACILITY – CONTINUOUS**

(FX: DOOR CLOSSES)

**RANI**

Doctor – what a pleasant surprise.

**DOCTOR**

I wish I could say the same.

**REEV**

The Doctor is looking for his friend.

**RANI**

The enterprising Peri Brown. Yes, she was here earlier.

**DOCTOR**

But not now?

**BAXTON**

She's not far away.

**DOCTOR**

Well, I'm flattered, not to say surprised, that you recognise me, Professor Baxton. Last time we met, I had a different face. But then – so did you. Whatever mischief you're up to, Rani, I shall put a stop to it.

**RANI**

You always assume the worst, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

In your case, with good reason. – Why have you brought me here? I assume it was you who engineered those particular shenanigans.

**RANI**

Please, Doctor. Here I am Professor Baxton, a respectable and respected academic.

**DOCTOR**

Falsifying a few records and swapping a few pictures doesn't make you a different person. What I don't understand is why bothered to try to imitate the real Professor's voice?

**RANI**

Pictures are easily replaced. Even video images. But the University archives sound recordings of all lectures.

**DOCTOR**

And audio data takes a lot longer to fake. I see. So what has happened to the real Baxton, hmmm?

**RANI**

She's... indisposed.

**DOCTOR**

There, Reev – you heard her, she admits it! She admits she is not Professor Baxton! Although I will concede that she is a brilliant scientist in her own right...

**RANI**

How kind.

**DOCTOR**

She is in fact a decidedly amoral renegade Time Lord exiled from the planet Gallifrey who doesn't give two hoots about anyone except herself and her mad schemes for galactic domination.

**REEV**

I know.

**DOCTOR**

Whatever she's told you is – What do you mean, you know?

**REEV**

She's the Rani.

**DOCTOR**

You know?! –

**REEV**

Hands up, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

Oh look, a gun. I take it you're the teacher's pet?

(FX: ELECTRONIC DOOR OPENS.)

**RANI**

(SIGHS) Just bring him through.

(FX: ALL WALK THROUGH THE DOOR, WHICH CLOSES CUTTING OFF THE SOUND. CUT TO:)



**29. INT. STORE ROOM — DAY**

(FX: WATER POOLING ON FLOOR. SMALL BANG! AS ELECTRICAL SOCKETS SHORT OUT. A CANISTER TIPS AND SMASHES)

CUT TO:

**30. INT. ROOM IN MEDICAL FACILITY – DAY**

**REEV**

(SHOVING DOCTOR) Move!

**DOCTOR**

Don't shove! – I shall speak to the Vice Chancellor about this. He and I are old friends, you know.

**RANI**

(FOLLOWING) Oh do be quiet.

**PERI**

(SURPRISED) Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

Peri – are you all right?

**PERI**

Oh yeah. Just happy to be reunited with our old friend with the new face and locked up in this pokey little office.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, it does appear to be suffering from a dearth of interior design features. I do think you might have gone to a bit more trouble when you selected somewhere to incarcerate us, Rani. I mean, one desk and a novelty glass paperweight.

**RANI**

Well, if you will turn up a whole day early for your award. A whole incarnation early, come to that. I was expecting the little chap with the hat and umbrella and the [whiny friend Melanie.]

**DOCTOR**

(HANDS OVER EARS) La, la, la! – I have no idea what you're talking about.

**RANI**

Obviously. So what were you doing, hoping to organise some pre-publicity? Cheerleaders and a brass band, perhaps?

**DOCTOR**

No. Not brass, anyway. And it's a good job I did turn up early.

**PERI**

In time to thwart your plans.

**RANI**

'Thwart my plans'? You must be a devotee of the cheapest forms of melodrama.

**DOCTOR**

Forgive her, she's American.

**RANI**

I'd never have guessed. Fortunately my plans are running ahead of schedule, and are well past the 'thwartable' stage. So your arriving early is a positive advantage.

**DOCTOR**

Why not take a seat and tell us all about it.

**RANI**

Three reasons. The first being that I have no intention of telling you anything that might later inconvenience me.

**PERI**

Spoilsport.

**RANI**

The second being that I'm rather busy. So I shall be back for the two of you later. You, Doctor, are very important to my unthwartable plans.

**DOCTOR**

Whatever they are.

**RANI**

Don't you just love surprises?

**PERI**

I hate surprises.

**RANI**

It's not your surprise.

(FX: RANI AND REEV LEAVE. DOOR SLIDES SHUT AND LOCKS.)

**DOCTOR**

Well, that wasn't very enlightening. She didn't even tell us the third reason why she wouldn't take a seat and explain.

**PERI**

That's easy. There aren't any chairs.

**31. INT. SEMINAR ROOM – DAY**

(FX: SMALL SEMINAR ROOM, WITH ABOUT A DOZEN STUDENTS AND TUTOR.)

**TUTOR**

I'm sorry there weren't enough chairs. I'll sort that out for the next seminar.

(FX: STUDENTS PACKING THEIR STUFF AWAY.)

**TUTOR (CONT'D)**

So if you can all read section 9, please. Oh, and I have a message that several of you are to report for an extra test in E-14 straightaway. Miklev?

**MIKLEV**

Yes, sir?

**TUTOR**

You're one of them. And Gantrik, Feldman and Carlotta. Thank you.

**MIKLEV**

Sorry, what test is this? What's it for?

**TUTOR**

I really don't know. But I'm sure they'll tell you all about it in E-14.

(FX: FADE OUT AS THE STUDENTS DEPART.)

**32. INT. ROOM IN MEDICAL FACILITY – DAY**

**PERI**

Why is the Rani so interested in you?

**DOCTOR**

I'm a very interesting person.

**PERI**

It's obviously because of her that we're here.

**DOCTOR**

But why is she here? And why does she need to steal Professor Baxton's identity?

**PERI**

Well, we're not going to find out while we're locked up.

**DOCTOR**

True enough. So I suggest we vacate this less than salubrious accommodation forthwith.

**PERI**

And how do we do that? The door's locked. No other doors, no windows, not even a ventilation grille. It's all solid metal.

(FX: PERI BANGS ON THE METAL WALL.)

**DOCTOR**

Yes... Yes!

**PERI**

Yes?

**DOCTOR**

Oh yes.

(FX: HE TESTS OTHER WALLS, KNOCKING ON THEM – ALL METAL.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

(AS HE KNOCKS) Interesting. Yes.

**PERI**

Metal.

**DOCTOR**

Not just any metal. This room – this whole building – it's Magna-struct.

**PERI**

Yeah, the Rani said.

**DOCTOR**

Magna-struct is often used for offices and academic institutes, health facilities – any building where you might want to shift round the topography. Change the positions of the internal walls and doors; ceilings and floors too, sometimes.

**PERI**

So these walls are all held in place by... what, magnetism?

**DOCTOR**

Well, it's not quite as simple as that. But in principle, yes. If you want to move a wall, you just de-polarise the plate, shift it where you want, and then re-polarise. Locking it solid.

**PERI**

Like a kid's construction toy. Only bigger... The Rani shifted the walls to send me where she wanted. Hey – Doctor! Maybe we could depolarise one of these walls and make it into a new door!

**DOCTOR**

A brilliant idea, Peri!

**PERI**

Thanks, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

And one which I had about five minutes ago.

**PERI**

Oh.

**DOCTOR**

But we'd need something thin and non-magnetic, but rigid enough to force under the wall at a polarisation point to break the field.

**PERI**

Like a plastic comb?

**DOCTOR**

Ideal. Do you have one?

**PERI**

No.

**DOCTOR**

Oh.

**PERI**

I was just saying. As an example... This paperweight's no good. But maybe there's something in the desk drawers?

**DOCTOR**

We can but look. And...

(FX: DRAWER OPENED)

**DOCTOR** (CONT'D)

... Nothing.

**PERI**

(FX: CLACKING SCISSORS) There's a pair of scissors.

**DOCTOR**

Metal. Magnetic.

**PERI**

So what now?

**DOCTOR**

There must be something we can use. Think!

**PERI**

Wait a minute – cloth!

**DOCTOR**

Cloth?

**PERI**

Material. Wool, cotton, linen...

**DOCTOR**

Yes, I know what cloth is, Peri. It's what I sometimes think your ears are made from, actually.

**PERI**

But would cloth break the polarisation thing, under the wall?

**DOCTOR**

Yes, it would... Except, we need something rigid, that we can force between the magnetised plates.

**PERI**

We wrap it round the scissors.

**DOCTOR**

(THOUGHTFUL) It would have to be fairly thick, so the magnetic field didn't just work through the material. (THINKING) I gave my hanky to Lizzo to bathe her head...

**PERI**

I was thinking of cutting a bit off your coat.

**DOCTOR**

Absolutely not. This coat is unique.

**PERI**

I certainly hope so.

**DOCTOR**

I am not cutting bits off it. We'll take a bit off your skirt instead.

**PERI**

No you won't. Doctor – your coat's thicker, and you won't miss just a bit. Look, we can cut along the edges of the pattern, or take off a pocket or something.

**DOCTOR**

A pocket? Take off a pocket? Where would I keep my hanky?

**PERI**

You haven't got a hanky, remember?

**DOCTOR**

Even so. I've got a better idea. I'll take my coat off, and we can just wrap the sleeve round the scissors, like this... See? Then if we can force the scissors under this wall...

(FX: THE DOCTOR RAMS THE SCISSORS UNDER THE WALL. A METALLIC CLICK, AND THE WALL COMES FREE OF THE FLOOR.)

**PERI**

Is that it?

**DOCTOR**

I think it is. Help me push this end of the wall...

(FX: EFFORT FROM BOTH AS THEY HEAVE THE WALL ASIDE INTO.)



**33. INT. ADJACENT ROOM – CONTINUOUS**

**PERI**

This room looks just the same.

**DOCTOR**

But with one important difference, I hope...

**PERI**

That the door's unlocked?

**DOCTOR**

Exactly.

**34. INT. SEMINAR ROOM E14 – DAY**

(THE RANI IS BACK IN 'PROFESSOR BAXTON' PERSONA:)

**BAXTON**

Thank you for taking the test, everyone. The system has evaluated and collated all the answers, and I'll make sure you get a corresponding credit on your overall course rating. There was one student whose rating was well above everyone else. Miklev, would you come with me, please. The rest of you can go.

(FX: AS A HANDFUL OF STUDENTS VACATE CHAIRS AND FILE OUT:)

**MIKLEV**

Me? Really? I mean, are you sure?

**BAXTON**

Oh yes, I'm sure. It's not just to do with your academic achievement.

**MIKLEV**

Then what?

**BAXTON**

There are other factors that the system takes into account when assessing your suitability.

**MIKLEV**

Suitability for what? I'm sorry, Professor, I don't understand.

**BAXTON**

You come with me, Miklev, and everything will become clear.

CUT TO:

**35. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY FOYER – DAY**

(FX: INNER DOORS OPEN TO ADMIT THE DOCTOR AND PERI.)

**DOCTOR**

... One thing's for certain, the Vice Chancellor knows more than he's saying. Baxton's been here for years, and so has he. So he must know she's an imposter.

**PERI**

You think he's in cahoots with the Rani.

(FX: WELL OFF, BEYOND DOORS, RANI & MIKLEV APPROACHING.)

**DOCTOR**

Cahoots? What sort of a word is – ['cahoots']?

(HE BREAKS OFF BECAUSE:)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

Someone coming! Quick – hide!

**PERI**

Hide? Where?

**DOCTOR**

Behind the reception desk.

(FX: THEY BUNDLE BEHIND THE DESK, JUST AS DOORS OPEN TO ADMIT MIKLEV AND 'BAXTON'.)

**PERI**

(WHISPERS) She's got a gun!

**RANI**

Through here.

**MIKLEV**

Why here? I don't need medical treatment.

**RANI**

(BORED) Oh, really?

(FX: RANI SHOOTS MIKLEV.)

**MIKLEV**

(CRIES OUT, SLUMPS TO FLOOR)

**RANI** (CONT'D)

You do now.

(THE DOCTOR AND PERI IN HUSHED VOICES FROM HIDING:)

**PERI**

(SOTTO) Miklev!

**DOCTOR**

(SOTTO) No, Peri – it's just a tranquiliser pistol. She still needs him for something.

**PERI**

(SOTTO) She's coming over!

(FX: THE RANI CROSSES TO THE DESK, PRESSES A BUTTON. HER VOICE IS AMPLIFIED BY THE PA SYSTEM:)

**RANI**

(INTO MIC) Students Anton and Reev to the main entrance please. You have a package to collect.

(FX: PA CLICKS OFF. THE RANI MOVES AWAY.)

**PERI**

(SOTTO) Doctor, there must be something we can do.

**DOCTOR**

(SOTTO) There is. But not yet... You know, I've found some very interesting cables and wires down here.

**PERI**

(SOTTO) Oh yeah, fascinating.

(FX: INNER DOOR OPENS, REEV AND ANTON ENTER.)

**RANI**

What kept you? – Bring that to the operating room. I want to start immediately.

**REEV**

Of course. Give me a hand, Anton.

(FX: RANI HEADS OFF INSIDE. STUDENTS DRAG MIKLEV AFTER HER. THE DOCTOR AND PERI EMERGE FROM HIDING.)

**PERI**

Operating room? Doctor –

(FX: ELECTRONIC NOISES AS THE DOCTOR ADJUSTS EQUIPMENT.)

**DOCTOR**

Yes, yes, yes, don't fuss, Peri. Now I think if I adjust the phase of this monitor – yes!

**PERI**

You've tapped into the security cameras?

**DOCTOR**

I have indeed. Feel free to be impressed.

**PERI**

I'm impressed.

**DOCTOR**

Let's see where they've taken Miklev and what they're up to... Shame there's no sound...

(FX: THE DOCTOR CLICKS THROUGH VARIOUS SECURITY FEEDS OF DIFFERENT ROOMS.)

**PERI**

That's where we were locked up.

**DOCTOR**

Sick bay... Lower corridor... Store room – that's interesting...

**PERI**

What is?

**DOCTOR**

Oh, nothing...

(FX: THE DOCTOR CLICKS ON... BUT MAYBE HE SAW:)

### **36. INT. STORE ROOM – DAY**

(FX: TAP CONTINUES TO DRIP. BUBBLING WATER. A CHEMICAL REACTION – FLASH, WHOMP! SPRINKLERS ACTIVATE.)

**37. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM — DAY**

(FX: BACKGROUND NOISE OF EQUIPMENT. THE RANI ENTERS. REEV AND ANTON DRAG IN MIKLEV AND DUMP HIM ON THE OPERATING COUCH.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Everything is prepared. We can start as soon as he's connected.

**RANI**

Get him wired into the systems.

**REEV**

It'll take a few minutes.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

We need to synch up to his alpha-wave signature. Did the test show he was compatible?

**RANI**

As compatible as you were.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

That's all right then.

**REEV**

I'll start on the cranial attachments.

(FX: BLEEPES ETC AS THEY START TO WIRE UP MIKLEV.)

**RANI**

Good. There are a few things I need to take care of, and then I'll be back to supervise the transfer.

(FX: THE RANI LEAVES.)

CUT TO:

**38. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY FOYER – CONTINUOUS**

(THE DOCTOR AND PERI WATCHING PREVIOUS SCENE ON THE MONITOR.)

**PERI**

What are they doing to Miklev?

**DOCTOR**

I don't know, Peri. But it's time they stopped.

**PERI**

That's Lizzo... Look, the Rani's leaving.

**DOCTOR**

She might be heading this way. Keep an eye on the corridor.

**PERI**

Right. What are you doing?

**DOCTOR**

It wasn't just the security feeds I found under the desk.

(FX: DOCTOR DIVES UNDER THE DESK, PULLING OUT WIRES AND CABLES.)

**DOCTOR** (CONT'D)

If I can isolate the public address system the Rani used just now... Yes – done it! I think.

**PERI**

Done what?

**DOCTOR**

Something immeasurably clever. I've connected the PA system to this remote microphone, and fixed it so it will only be heard in that operating room.

**PERI**

And how does that help?

**DOCTOR**

Bring the microphone, and let's find the operating room.

**PERI**

And then?

**DOCTOR**

Watch and learn.

**39. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM – DAY**

**DOCTOR**

(OVER PA) This is a message from Professor Baxton. Would all her special students report immediately to the laboratory on the lower level.

(FX: DOOR OPENS.)

**LIZZO**

Where do you think you're going, Reeve?

**DOCTOR**

(OVER PA) I repeat, all Professor Baxton's students to report immediately.

**REEV**

You heard that.

**LIZZO**

I don't think it applies to us. She knows we're busy.

**DOCTOR**

(OVER PA) That includes students Lizzo, Anton, and Reeve.

**LIZZO**

(SIGHS) All right. I'll put the process on hold. We'd better see what she wants.

(FX: BLEEPs ETC. THEN THEY LEAVE. DOOR CLOSES. BEAT. DOOR OPENS AGAIN.)

**PERI**

(ENTERING WITH DOCTOR) I can't believe they fell for it.

**DOCTOR**

It's all in the performance, I think you'll find.

**PERI**

(GOING TO MIKLEV) Miklev? Miklev – wake up!

(FX: DOCTOR ADJUSTS THE EQUIPMENT.)

**DOCTOR**

I'll cut the suppressors and route a stimulant to his neural centres. – There, that should help.



**MIKLEV**

(GROANS AND WAKES, GROGGY) What? Where am I? What's going on?

**DOCTOR**

Easy now.

**PERI**

Oh Miklev, thank goodness.

**MIKLEV**

Peri? Doctor?

(FX: DOCTOR REMOVING SUCKERS, WIRES FROM MIKLEV.)

**DOCTOR**

Come on, let's get these probes detached and up you get.

**MIKLEV**

Woah, my legs. I feel... The world's spinning. Is it supposed to be doing that?

**PERI**

You'll feel better soon. Won't he, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

I expect so. But we don't have time to wait. Those students will be back any minute.

**PERI**

And the Rani.

**MIKLEV**

The which?

**DOCTOR**

'Witch' is not far wide of the mark. Come on, we'll help you.

(FX: THE DOCTOR AND PERI HELP MIKLEV UP.)

**PERI**

Shouldn't we stay and stop the Rani?

**DOCTOR**

We will. Once we know what she's up to.

**MIKLEV**

Where are we going?

**DOCTOR**

The Vice Chancellor's office.

**PERI**

You think he'll help us?

**DOCTOR**

No. But I think his information and data systems might. With a bit of additional help from young Miklev here.

(FX: THEY EXIT.)

**40. INT. RANI'S LAB**

(FX: HUM OF EQUIPMENT. THE **RANI** IS TALKING QUIETLY TO SOMEONE AS SHE WORKS.)

**RANI**

Are you quite comfortable in there? No, of course not. You're not coping at all, are you? All those minds, pulling in different directions. Always squabbling. No focus... I have to say you've been rather a disappointment. But you can take comfort from the knowledge that very soon this will all be over for you... Although for the Doctor, I'm afraid it will just be beginning...

(FX: FADE OUT ON HER SATISFIED CHUCKLES.)

**41. INT. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE**

(FADE IN: THE DOCTOR AT WORK ON THE VICE CHANCELLOR'S TERMINAL.)

**DOCTOR**

...And that's all the students you can think of who have taken the test and then 'changed'?

**MIKLEV**

Plus Lizzo of course.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, got her. Just cross-referencing the results.

**MIKLEV**

And what will that tell you.

**DOCTOR**

I'm looking for similarities. All still clear out there, Peri?

**PERI**

(AT DOOR) Yeah. No sign of anyone. Maybe the VC's with the Rani?

**DOCTOR**

Quite likely. They're definitely in cahoots.

**MIKLEV**

In what? What does that mean?

**DOCTOR**

I've no idea. Ask Peri.

(FX: COMPLETION BLEEP FROM THE SYSTEM)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

Here we are...

**MIKLEV**

What's it say?

**DOCTOR**

The students who you say seemed different after they took the test are all the brightest and best in a particular field.

**PERI**

(COMING OVER) You mean she's looking for a breadth of knowledge and expertise, rather than just the cleverest students.

**DOCTOR**

So it would seem.

**MIKLEV**

But why? What's she doing to us, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

I don't know... Maybe if I check the Vice Chancellor's personal log..

(FX: MORE BLEEPING.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

Ah yes, look at this. Here – look, look.

**MIKLEV**

It's an order for electronic and medical components.

**PERI**

So what?

**DOCTOR**

So, it was placed by the Vice Chancellor. Exactly the parts you'd need to build a bio-digital interface controller!

**PERI**

(LAUGHS) Doctor, us mortals have no idea what you're on about.

**DOCTOR**

Shouldn't you be keeping watch?

CUT TO:

**42. INT. OUTSIDE VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE — CONTINUOUS**

(FX: DING OF A LIFT ARRIVING. DOORS OPEN AND THE VICE CHANCELLOR EXITS. HE IS SPEAKING INTO A COMMUNICATOR:)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

... I need another shot. I can feel it. Yes, I think it is getting urgent. But it seems so soon. I shall be glad when you move me into something younger... Miklev? Yes, I know him. He'll be ideal.

(HE HEADS OFF DOWN THE CORRIDOR.)

CUT TO:

**43. INT. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE — CONTINUOUS**

**PERI**

He's coming!

**DOCTOR**

Nowhere to hide. We'll bluff it. Stay calm everyone.

**MIKLEV**

Calm?!

(FX: VICE CHANCELLOR ENTERS. HE'S BREATHING HEAVILY — ALMOST WHEEZING.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

What? You again, Doctor. And.. Miklev, isn't it? You're looking very well. Very young and energetic.

**MIKLEV**

(A BIT CREEPED OUT BY THIS) What?

**DOCTOR**

Never mind the pleasantries. We rather wanted a little chat.

**MIKLEV**

(ANGRY) I want more than a chat! What have you been doing, old man?

(FX: MIKLEV GOES FOR THE VICE CHANCELLOR.)

**PERI**

Miklev — no!

**DOCTOR**

This won't help.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Get off me!

**MIKLEV**

Not until you tell me what you're doing! What's happened to Lizzo and the others?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(EFFORT) I said — get — off — me!

(FX: THE VICE CHANCELLOR PUSHES MIKLEV AWAY. MIKLEV STUMBLES AND FALLS, HITTING HIS HEAD.)

**MIKLEV**

(GROANS, OUT COLD)

**PERI**

(RUSHING OVER) Miklev!

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(EFFORT, BUT CONCERNED) Is he – is he all right? His body's not damaged?

**PERI**

Damaged?! What do you care? He hit his head on the desk. He's out cold.

**VICE CHANCELLOR:**

(BREATHING BECOMES MORE LABOURED AND WHEEZY – HE IS AGEING RAPIDLY!)

**DOCTOR**

He'll be all right. Which is more than I can say for the Vice Chancellor.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Help me – please.

**PERI**

But he's... ancient!

**DOCTOR**

Aged about fifty years in just a few seconds.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

I need... need the auto-injector...

(FX: THE VICE CHANCELLOR STAGGERS OUT.)

**PERI**

Where's he going?

**DOCTOR**

Not far by the look of him. But we should follow, just as soon as... Yes, Miklev will be fine. He's coming round.

**MIKLEV**

(GROANS) Oh, my head...



**PERI**

We'll be back in a minute. You'll be all right.

**DOCTOR**

Come on, Peri.

(FX: THEY EXIT.)

CUT TO:

**44. INT. OUTSIDE VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE – CONTINUOUS**

(FX: THUNK-HISS OF AN AUTO-INJECTOR. THE VICE CHANCELLOR'S BREATHING RECOVERS.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Thank you. Thank you, that's better.

**RANI**

It's a good job you called me.

(FX: THE DOCTOR AND PERI RUN OUT OF THE OFFICE AND APPROACH.)

**DOCTOR**

Uh-oh.

**PERI**

The Rani!

(FX: THEY SKID TO A HALT.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Oh yes, I knew there was something. I found these two trespassing in my office.

**PERI**

He's back to normal.

**DOCTOR**

I doubt that. But he certainly seems more sprightly, all of a sudden.

**RANI**

Haven't you caused enough trouble for one day, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

I've barely started.

**RANI**

Really.

**DOCTOR**

I'm beginning to understand what you're up to, Rani, and I shan't rest until I stop you.

**RANI**

Then you're going to get very tired. Vice Chancellor?

**PERI**

Doctor, he's got a gun!

**DOCTOR**

Don't worry, Peri. The Rani needs us for her nefarious scheme, remember. She can't afford to kill us.

**RANI**

If it's that or listen to you pontificate, Doctor, then I think I'll cope. Vice Chancellor.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Yes?

**RANI**

Shoot them.

**DOCTOR**

What?

**PERI**

No!

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

My pleasure.

(FX: TWO ELECTRONIC BLASTS.)

**DOCTOR & PERI**

(CRY OUT, THEN SLUMP TO THE FLOOR)

**END OF PART TWO**

**PART THREE**

MUSIC: OPENING TITLES

**REPRISE:**

**RANI**

*Shoot them.*

**DOCTOR**

*What?*

**PERI**

*No!*

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

*My pleasure.*

*(FX: TWO ELECTRONIC BLASTS.)*

**DOCTOR & PERI**

*(CRY OUT, THEN SLUMP TO THE FLOOR)*

**45. INT. OUTSIDE VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE [CONTINUOUS]**

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

The tranq-darts will soon wear off. It's only a small dose. They won't be unconscious for long.

**RANI**

Long enough for us to enjoy a bit of peace and quiet. You wouldn't believe it to listen to it his insufferable prating, but the Doctor is actually quite brilliant... Such a waste.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

We can't leave them out here.

**RANI**

We'll drag them into your office. You bring the Doctor, I can manage the girl.

*(FX: THEY DRAG THEM.)*

FOLLOW THEM INTO:

**46. INT. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE — DAY**

(FX: RANI AND VICE CHANCELLOR APPROACHING, DRAGGING DOCTOR AND PERI.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

The ageing — it's happening more frequently now.

**RANI**

It just requires a simple adjustment to the genetic splicing matrix. — Here will do.

(FX: THEY SET DOWN PERI AND THE DOCTOR — THE LATTER WITH A THUMP)

**DOCTOR**

(STIRS) Dame Margot...?

**RANI**

Mind his head!

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Sorry.

**DOCTOR**

(IN SLEEP) Just touch these two wires together, [and the Bandrils won't ever again menace an innocent world...]

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

He's coming round.

**RANI**

I assume you rose to your present position through your unrivalled powers of analytical observation.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Sarcasm?

**RANI**

Oh, you noticed.

(DOCTOR WAKES WITH A JOLT — IMMEDIATELY BACK TO SELF.)

**DOCTOR**

Woah! A tranquiliser gun? (SMACKS LIPS) Mmmm, tastes like... Like Di-phenomol Pernacitate.

**RANI**

It is.

**DOCTOR**

Don't you realise that's banned on ninety-one planets?

**RANI**

Ninety-two actually. But fortunately we aren't on any of them.

**DOCTOR**

That's hardly the point.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Then what is the point?

**DOCTOR**

That it can have serious side-effects.

**RANI**

Unfortunately, paralysing the vocal cords is not one of them.

(PERI GROANS.)

**PERI**

Oh my head – what happened?

**DOCTOR**

Peri, Peri, it's all right. You're going to be fine.

**PERI**

Yes, but when?

**DOCTOR**

If Peri is harmed I – [shall take serious action]

**RANI**

Oh be quiet. You're not in a position to do anything, Doctor. Annoy me, and the Vice Chancellor will shoot you both again. As I'm sure you are aware, it's cumulative does of Di-phenomol Pernacitate that cause problems.

**DOCTOR**

I know what you're up to and I will stop you.

**RANI**

Only you could be quite so utterly wrong twice in the same sentence.

**DOCTOR**

Sidelian memory transfer. Or a variation of it.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

How could he know that?

**DOCTOR**

Oh you'd be surprised what I know.

**PERI**

(GROGGY) What is Siberian memory transfer?

**RANI**

It's a method for moving experiential information from one organic cerebellum to another.

**PERI**

Thanks. Big help.

**DOCTOR**

Except you're not just adding memories to a conscious mind, are you? You're wiping the brain clean and then installing a whole new personality.

**RANI**

I'm doing far more than that, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

New bodies for old minds, is that it? So tell me, Vice Chancellor – who were you before your mind was moved into that body?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(WARY, ANXIOUS) Rani...

**RANI**

He knows nothing. Or almost nothing. Bring them to the Medical Facility. We'll deal with them there.

**DOCTOR**

I should warn you that we shall escape. Again. And then I shall take great pleasure in putting a stop to this.

**RANI**

You won't escape again.

**DOCTOR**

Are you sure? (DROPPING HINT TO MIKLEV) Perhaps we'll have help this time. You never know, someone else may rumble you and call in Galactic Security. It'd be my privilege to help them access the truth.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Move, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

Oh very eloquent. Make a lot of long and rhetorical speeches do you, Vice Chancellor? Come along, Peri. Let's humour them for now.

**RANI**

There's precious little humour in what will soon happen to you. Now, as the Vice Chancellor so eloquently said – move.

(AS THEY EXIT INTO CORRIDOR OUTSIDE:)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

What about the boy Miklev?

**RANI**

He's concussed. Leave him for now.

**PERI**

(ASIDE, TO DOCTOR) Doctor – did you see?

**DOCTOR**

(ASIDE) Miklev winked at us.

**PERI**

(ASIDE) He was awake all the time!

**DOCTOR**

(ASIDE) Why else do you think I was being so annoyingly distracting?

**PERI**

(ASIDE) Doctor – you're always like that.

FADE OUT.



**47. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM**

(FADE IN: LIZZO AND REEV ADJUSTING CONTROLS.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Reev – make sure the cortex manipulators are responding..

**REEV**

They're at 85 per cent.

(FX: DOCTOR AND PERI USHERED IN BY RANI AND VICE CHANCELLOR.)

**RANI**

Is everything ready?

**REEV**

We're just calibrating now.

**DOCTOR**

Calibrating? You hear that, Peri – how exciting.

**PERI**

I'm thrilled to bits, Doctor.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Be quiet.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

I see you brought the motley fool with you.

**RANI**

Sadly.

**DOCTOR**

I wouldn't stand for that if I were you, Peri.

**RANI**

She won't have to stand for it. Put her on the operating couch.

**PERI**

On there? No way!

(FX: PERI STRUGGLES AS LIZZO AND REEV RESTRAIN HER ON THE COUCH.)

**REEV**

Hold still.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

I've got her...

**DOCTOR**

What are you doing to her? Rani – leave the girl, plainly it's me you want!

**RANI**

Vice Chancellor – if he says another word, shoot him again.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

With pleasure.

**RANI**

(TO DOCTOR) The boy Miklev was concussed. Performing the Sidelian procedure on a concussed brain would be a waste of time. – No, Ms Brown will have to serve as a substitute.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

For Miklev?

**RANI**

Obviously. – Why, is that a problem?

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

No, no. She'll make a very suitable substitute.

**PERI**

Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

It's all right, Peri. It'll be all right.

**RANI**

Enough. Bring him.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

This way, if you please, Doctor. Or even if you don't.

**DOCTOR**

Charming.

(FX: AS THEY EXIT:)

**RANI**

Oh, and Ms Brown?

**PERI**

What?

**RANI**

It won't be all right.

(FX: DOOR CLOSSES.)

**PERI**

(NERVOUS) What are you doing? Lizzo?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Relax yourself. This suppressor will soon put you to sleep.

(INJECTS PERI IN THE ARM WITH A DEVICE)

**PERI**

Ow! – And when I wake up again?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Who said anything about waking up again?

**PERI**

W-what...? (PASSES OUT)

CUT TO:

**48. INT. STORE ROOM**

(FX: TAP. SPRINKLERS. WATER LEVEL RISING. CREAKING AS METAL SHELVES TOP OVER, CRASH, INTO SINK. SINK SMASHED OFF WALL. MAINS PIPE BEGINS TO GUSH EVEN MORE WATER INTO THE ROOM.)

CUT TO:

**49. INT. OFFICE IN MEDICAL FACILITY**

**RANI**

Lizzo will tell us when they're about to start the operation.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(TIRED) It must be soon. I can feel it.

**DOCTOR**

Are you all right, Vice Chancellor? You're looking rather clapped out.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(VERY TIRED) I just... I just need to sit down for a minute.

**DOCTOR**

I think you need more than that.

**RANI**

Enough, Doctor.

(VICE CHANCELLOR IS GETTING OLDER AND MORE FRAIL BY THE MOMENT...)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

What do you mean?

**DOCTOR**

I mean that you look about twenty years older than you did a few minutes ago.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Again? So soon?

**DOCTOR**

Make that thirty years. Or, no, closer to forty now, I'd say. Rapid ageing, just like before.

**RANI**

That is enough, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

She hasn't told you, has she?

**RANI**

Be quiet!

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

No! Let him speak. (FADING) Let him speak...

**DOCTOR**

Just can't get the staff, can you? Especially when the staff you do have are suffering from temporo-chronic rejection.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

What is that?

**DOCTOR**

I imagine the mind she's implanted in that body was very old. Very old indeed.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

What of it? The body is young. And soon I'll have an even younger one.

**DOCTOR**

You mean Peri? Is that what's she's promised you – put up with the well-worn body of the poor old V-C and you can upgrade to something younger and stronger later? It will never happen.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Her body will serve me well...

**RANI**

Fit for purpose, I suppose. The bodyscan I took earlier showed up traces of Trimorphol poisoning, but that needn't bother you.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Trimorphol? What does that mean?

**RANI**

The Doctor knows. – I wonder, does Ms Brown?

**DOCTOR**

(HASTILY) That's not important now.

**RANI**

So she doesn't? How remiss of you.

**DOCTOR**

All this is irrelevant! The point is, Vice Chancellor – you can never make the transfer now.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

What do you mean?

**RANI**

(LOSING PATIENCE) Haven't you worked it out yet?

**DOCTOR**

Your mind is supposed to adapt to its new, younger body. But she got it wrong. So instead, the body is adapting to your mind – getting older to try to match.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Why is it happening so often? I need another dose from the auto-injector.

**DOCTOR**

Tell him.

**RANI**

Give me the gun, Vice Chancellor. I can load it with a dose of the anti-toxin instead of the tranquiliser. I have a cartridge here.

**DOCTOR**

No, don't-!

(FX: HE HANDS HER THE GUN. THE RANI FITS A NEW CARTRIDGE.)

**RANI**

Thank you.

**DOCTOR**

Tell him!

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Tell me what?

**RANI**

You fool. There is no anti-toxin. No cure.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

What?

**DOCTOR**

She lied to you. All she can do is suppress the effects, delay the inevitable.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

No – no, she promised us. Rani, you promised me!

**DOCTOR**

I'm sorry. But sooner or later, you will die.

**RANI**

Oh sooner, Doctor. Definitely sooner.

(FX: THE RANI SHOOTS.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

(CRIES OUT AND DIES)

**DOCTOR**

Not a cartridge of anti-toxin, then. Another lie.

**RANI**

The humane solution. I thought you'd approve.

**DOCTOR**

Humane? Humane?! How is shooting a man dead humane?

**RANI**

He was dying anyway. You said so yourself. I just spared him the additional suffering.

**DOCTOR**

Suffering that you instigated.

**RANI**

Well nobody's perfect. – Now, drag his body into that store cupboard.

**DOCTOR**

And if I refuse?

**RANI**

Then there is still more than enough Spielsnape toxin in this cartridge to kill you too.

**DOCTOR**

But you need me alive, remember?

**RANI**

Just put the body in the cupboard.

(FX: THE DOCTOR GIVES A GRUNT OF ANNOYANCE, BUT OPENS THE CUPBOARD, DRAGS THE BODY INSIDE, AND CLOSES IT.)

**DOCTOR**

Happy now, are we?

**RANI**

Deliriously.

CUT TO:



**50. INT. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE**

**MIKLEV**

(TO HIMSELF) Think, Miklev, think. The Doctor wanted help... but what can I do from the V-C's computer? – What was it he said? (QUOTING DOCTOR) "My privilege to help Galactic Security access..." (REALISATION) The V-C's computer? – With the V-C's privileged access to the security systems!

(FX: BLEEPS AND BOOPS AS HE WORKS RAPIDLY AT COMPUTER.)

CUT TO:

**51. INT. OFFICE IN MEDICAL FACILITY**

(FX: DOOR OPENS, LIZZO ENTERS.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Everything is set. I thought you'd want to know.

**RANI**

Thank you.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Where's the Vice Chancellor?

**DOCTOR**

Indisposed.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

What do you mean, 'indisposed'?

**DOCTOR**

Well I could tell you, but I think the Rani would shoot me.

**RANI**

(TO LIZZO) Tell them to begin the process immediately.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

They're already prepping. It's automated from now on.

**DOCTOR**

For the last time, Rani – you have to stop this. Can't you see it doesn't work? Your scheme, whatever it really is, is founded on a false premise.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

What's he talking about?

**RANI**

As always, he doesn't know. But you'll be pleased to learn, Doctor, that I don't need to operate on you.

**DOCTOR**

Scant relief, if I may say so, while Peri is in danger.

**RANI**

You'd do better to worry about yourself. I may not need to operate – but I do still have an important task for you to perform.

**DOCTOR**

I don't doubt it. But if you think I'll do what you want willingly, you're going to be very disappointed.

**RANI**

Somehow, I think I'll cope.

CUT TO:

**52. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM**

(NB: FROM NOW ON, PERI IS POSSESSED BY ONE OF THE ALIENS — THOUGH SHE PRETENDS SHE IS STILL PERI WITH THE DOCTOR AND MIKLEV.)

FX: POWER AND EQUIPMENT 'HUMS' TO A HALT. DISTANT EMERGENCY KLAXONS SOUND — CONTINUOUSLY FROM HERE.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

(GROGGY) What's happening?

**REEV**

Power failure. But don't worry, the emergency systems will soon cut in.

(FX: EMERGENCY LIGHTING FLICKERS ON.)

**REEV** (CONT'D)

There we are. Just as well, or we'd be locked in otherwise. Look, I'd better see what's happening. Don't worry — I shan't leave you for long.

(FX: REEV EXITS. DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES. BEAT. DOOR OPENS.)

**MIKLEV**

(CREEPING IN) Peri! Peri — are you all right?

**PERI-ALIEN**

What...? Who is it?

**MIKLEV**

(COMING OVER) Peri — thank goodness. It's me — Miklev.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Miklev?

**MIKLEV**

My cutting the power shut off the suppressors, I think. You'll be all right in a minute. But we have to hurry.

**PERI-ALIEN**

I... yes. Hurry. My head, I think it's clearing a bit. Oh, I'm not used to this...

**MIKLEV**

Let me help you. Reev and the others will be back soon.

(FX: MIKLEV UNPLUGS THE CONNECTIONS AND HELPS PERI TO STAND.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

Woah – sorry, I’m a bit dizzy.

**MIKLEV**

That’s all right, lean on me.

(FX: THEY SHUFFLE AWKWARDLY TO THE DOOR.)

**MIKLEV (CONT'D)**

Just through here. That’s it.

(FX: DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THEM. CONTINUES INTO:)

**53. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY CORRIDOR — CONTINUOUS**

(FX: THE KLAXONS ARE LOUDER OUT HERE. CONTINUE UNTIL NOTED.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

I think I can manage now.

**MIKLEV**

You sure?

**PERI-ALIEN**

Yes. But be ready to catch me if I'm wrong.

**MIKLEV**

No problem. I'm right here.

**PERI-ALIEN**

So where are we going?

**MIKLEV**

To find the Doctor.

**PERI-ALIEN**

The Doctor?

**MIKLEV**

He's here somewhere. You don't know where the Rani took him? She's a piece of work. We rescue the Doctor and then we can sort her out.

**PERI-ALIEN**

(UNFAMILIAR EXPRESSION) Sort her out? Yes. But maybe we should just get out of here. I mean, make sure we're safe first then think it through.

**MIKLEV**

No, no — we can find the Doctor while the power's off and everyone's running round like headless teklamarians.

(FX: KLAXONS CUT OUT.)

**MIKLEV (CONT'D)**

Hear that-? We may not have much time. You up to this?

**PERI-ALIEN**

Yes, of course. I'll be... just fine.

**54. INT. OFFICE IN MEDICAL FACILITY – DAY**

**RANI**

Where's Maintenance? This whole place is run by incompetents.

**DOCTOR**

Unless there really is an emergency, of course. That would explain the power cut.

**RANI**

No, this is some fool enterprise you've organised.

**DOCTOR**

While stuck in here with you?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

At least the alarms have stopped. What do you think triggered them?

**RANI**

There's only one way to find out. I need to get full power back on. Take this.

(FX: RANI HANDS LIZZO THE GUN.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

You want me to shoot him?

**DOCTOR**

Not very hospitable.

**RANI**

Keep an eye on him. But if he tries anything, then yes I want you to shoot him.

(FX: THE RANI LEAVES. DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES.)

**DOCTOR**

You don't like the idea of killing, do you, Lizzo?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Be quiet.

**DOCTOR**

Or whatever your real name is. Because that's only Lizzo's body you're in, isn't it?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(UNSETTLED) I said be quiet.

**DOCTOR**

The thing is, you killed the real Lizzo. That body doesn't come for free, you know. Everything has a price. Only it isn't you that paid that price. — The Vice Chancellor did, mind you, when he aged to death.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Aged to... What are you talking about?

**DOCTOR**

Oh, so you don't want me to be quiet any more?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Just tell me, Doctor!

**DOCTOR**

Of course. Though the Rani will kill me if she comes back and finds — (HE BREAKS OFF, APPARENTLY SEEING THE RANI.) Too late — here she is now.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(TURNING) Rani? I was just — (DOCTOR CHARGES HER AS SHE LOOKS ROUND AT NOTHING) Ooof!

(FX: THE GUN CLATTERS TO THE FLOOR. THE DOCTOR SCOOPS IT UP.)

**DOCTOR**

Uh, uh, uh! I'll take that. — Like the Vice Chancellor, you're older than you look, I'm guessing. But still you fell for the oldest trick in the book.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Are you going to shoot me?

**DOCTOR**

Shoot you? What do you take me for? I don't go around shooting people. No, there's been enough unpleasantness here already. Nasty, dangerous things, guns. So I think I'll look after this one.

(FX: POWER HUMS BACK ON.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

Ah, the power's back on. So if you'll excuse me...



(FX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES AS DOCTOR HURRIES OUT.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(PUZZLED) Why didn't he shoot me?

FADE TO:

**55. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY FOYER**

(FX: FADE UP. PERI AND MIKLEV HURRY IN.)

**MIKLEV**

With the power back on, we'll have to get out of here before they lock the whole place down.

**PERI-ALIEN**

But we didn't find the Doctor.

**MIKLEV**

I'm sorry, Peri.

**DOCTOR**

(POPPING HEAD UP FROM BEHIND DESK) So am I. What kept you?

**MIKLEV**

Doctor!

**PERI-ALIEN**

What are you doing hiding behind the reception desk?

**DOCTOR**

You remember the access panel to those cables?

**PERI-ALIEN**

Er, yes?

(FX: A DISCORDANT BLEEP AS MIKLEV TRIES TO OPEN THE DOORS, BUT THEY REMAIN SEALED.)

**MIKLEV**

We're too late.

**PERI-ALIEN**

The doors won't open?

**MIKLEV**

The Rani's sealed the facility.

**DOCTOR**

Indeed she has. But if you hang on just a moment.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Doctor — what are you — (doing?)

**DOCTOR**

(CUTTING HER OFF) Not now. Genius at work...

(FX: A FLASH AND A BANG FOLLOWED BY A FIZZLE.)

**DOCTOR**

Hmmm. That shouldn't have happened.

(FX: DOORS OPEN.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

But never mind.

**MIKLEV**

The doors are open!

**PERI-ALIEN**

Come on then.

**DOCTOR**

Not that way.

**MIKLEV**

But you just opened the doors.

**DOCTOR**

Exactly. The Rani will see I've over-ridden the mechanism and assume we've escaped. Second oldest trick in the book!

**PERI-ALIEN**

You mean, we aren't escaping?

**DOCTOR**

No, we're investigating. While they're looking for us out there, I want to take a look at that laboratory on the lower level.

**MIKLEV**

You think it's important?

**DOCTOR**

Important? I think it's key.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Come on then.

(THEY LEAVE THROUGH THE INTERNAL DOORS.)

FADE TO:

**56. INT. STORE ROOM**

(FX: GUSHING, FOAMING TORRENT)

CROSS TO:

**57. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY LOWER CORRIDOR**

(FX: ALL JOGGING TO HALT. VERY FAINT SOUND OF WATER FROM OFF — BARELY PERCEPTIBLE)

**DOCTOR**

Yes, this is the place. I remember that storeroom just there where we bathed Lizzo's head.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Can you hear something? Like running [water?]

(FX: DROWNED OUT WHEN DOCTOR TRIES TO ACTIVATE DOOR. A 'NEGATIVE' BUZZ)

**DOCTOR**

The door's security-shielded!

**MIKLEV**

You mean we're locked out?

**DOCTOR**

Looks that way. It was open earlier, so with any luck the fact it's shut means we can have the place to ourselves.

**PERI-ALIEN**

We have to get inside first.

**MIKLEV**

Any ideas, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

Hundreds. Thousands. Millions of ideas, all the time.

**MIKLEV**

I meant for getting the door open.

**DOCTOR**

Oh I'm sure I'll have something in my pockets...

**PERI-ALIEN**

(FLAT) Really.

**DOCTOR**

Let's see now...

(FX: JINGLING ETC AS DOCTOR EMPTIES OUT POCKETS)

**DOCTOR** (CONT'D)

Hold these.

(FX: RUSTLE OF PAPER BAG.)

**MIKLEV**

What are these?

**DOCTOR**

Jelly babies. Sweets. Gone a bit hard, probably.

**MIKLEV**

Sweets?

(FX: RUSTLE OF BAG AS HE HELPS HIMSELF.)

**DOCTOR**

(URGENT) No – wait – stop!

**PERI-ALIEN**

What is it, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

Don't eat that.

**MIKLEV**

Why not?

**DOCTOR**

It's my favourite colour. Orange, mmmm.

(FX: HE TAKES AND EATS THE JELLY BABY.)

**DOCTOR** (CONT'D)

You can have the green ones.

(FX: MORE POCKET RUMMAGING. THE DOCTOR FINDS THE GUN HE TOOK FROM LIZZO.)

**DOCTOR** (CONT'D)

Here, Peri, you'd better have this.

**PERI-ALIEN**

A gun?

**DOCTOR**

Don't worry, it's not mine. I had to relieve someone else of it a little while ago. Aha!

(FX: HE PRODUCES A BLEEPY-THING. IT BLEEPES.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

Success?

**DOCTOR**

Oh yes.

**MIKLEV**

What is it?

**DOCTOR**

Well it goes 'bleep' which is always a good start.

**PERI-ALIEN**

But will it open the door?

**DOCTOR**

Oh ye of little faith. Wait, watch, and learn.

(FX: MORE BLEEPING, FOLLOWED BY THE 'CLUNK' OF THE DOOR UNLOCKING.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

There you are.

**MIKLEV**

Well done, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

Thank you. Now then – after me.

(FX: DOOR OPENS.)

CUT TO:

**58. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM – DAY**

(FX: ENTER THE RANI WITH REEV.)

**RANI**

Where's Ms Brown?

**REEV**

But – she was here. The operation was... I went to check on the power systems. Someone must have undone the straps.

**RANI**

Worked that out all by yourself, did you? – We'd better check the laboratory. Make sure someone isn't poking their nose in where it's not wanted. Come on!

(FX: THEY HURRY OUT.)

CUT TO:



**59. INT. RANI'S LAB**

(FX: HI-TECH EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING WHAT SOUNDS LIKE LIFE-SUPPORT MACHINES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROOM, BEHIND A SCREEN.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

(ENTERING) The Rani's lab?

**DOCTOR**

So it would seem.

**MIKLEV**

She's got some serious technology in here. What's it all for?

**DOCTOR**

(FX: CROSSING TO COMPUTER BANK) Nothing good, that's certain. Just don't touch anything.

**PERI-ALIEN**

(FX: FOLLOWING HIM) You know what any of this stuff is for, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

Yes. Sadly.

**MIKLEV**

Why 'sadly'?

**DOCTOR**

Because these computer storage drives are linked to that main system, which from the catalogue index on this terminal contains the minds and memories of the students the Rani has operated on.

**MIKLEV**

That's horrible!

**DOCTOR**

To say the least. Living minds trapped inside the machine... You're very quiet, Peri.

**PERI-ALIEN**

I don't know what to say...

**MIKLEV**

(SLIGHTLY OFF) There's more behind this screen.

(FX: SCREEN SLIDES BACK. THE SOUND OF THE LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS INCREASES.)

**MIKLEV**

(SURPRISED) Oh.

**DOCTOR**

I thought I said not to touch anything! – But since you have, let's see what you've found.

(FX: THEY MOVE INTO THE SCREENED-OFF AREA. CROSS TO:)

**60. INT. RANI'S LAB SCREENED OFF AREA – CONTINUOUS**

**MIKLEV**

(AGHAST) Bodies! Loads of them –

**DOCTOR**

Still ticking over, just about.

**MIKLEV**

Who are these people?

**PERI-ALIEN**

(SEEING HER 'CONTEMPORARIES') They're all so... old.

**DOCTOR**

Yes. Which is why they needed new bodies.

**MIKLEV**

New bodies?

**PERI-ALIEN**

These are the bodies of the people whose minds the Rani has transplanted into the students.

**DOCTOR**

That's right. Or rather, it's wrong. Totally and utterly wrong.

**MIKLEV**

But if the minds have been transferred, why is she keeping their bodies alive, like this?

**DOCTOR**

The Rani isn't one to waste anything. Maybe it's so she can threaten to put the minds back in their original bodies if these people don't cooperate.

**PERI-ALIEN**

But surely the Rani is working for these people?

**DOCTOR**

The Rani is working for herself. Though I imagine these poor unfortunates believe she's working for them. I suspect they're in for a shock.

**MIKLEV**

Doctor – over here. This one's raised up higher than the others.

**DOCTOR**

(COMING OVER) Ah, yes, an Overseer, there had to be one.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Is she alive?

**MIKLEV**

She's breathing. But, wired up to the systems. The cables go right up under that hood that covers her head.

**DOCTOR**

The students' brains form a complete networked system. But left to their own devices they'll simply remain a crowd of isolated individuals. The Rani needs to link a living, organic brain into the systems to take control.

**PERI-ALIEN**

The Overseer?

**DOCTOR**

Exactly. Someone to organise the information within the system. It all needs codifying and cataloguing, analysing and interpreting. I suspect this is the Rani's real end game. A vast computational matrix that draws on the minds of the most brilliant students in every field.

**MIKLEV**

Controlled by whoever this is?

**DOCTOR**

Controlled by the Rani. This poor person will be slaved to the system, interpreting her instructions. Eventually they will be subsumed – losing all free will and slaved to the over-riding program.

**PERI-ALIEN**

She'd do all this just to build a computer?

**DOCTOR**

To get whatever it is this computer was built to calculate.

**MIKLEV**

But who is this? Do you know?

**DOCTOR**

I think I do. And so do you.

**PERI-ALIEN**

We do?

**MIKLEV**

Who?

**DOCTOR**

Help me raise the hood...

(FX: THEY LIFT THE HEAVY HOOD AWAY TO REVEAL:)

**DOCTOR**

Meet Professor Baxton!

**PERI-ALIEN**

You knew?

**DOCTOR**

I knew there had to be a reason for the Rani to take her place. Now we know why – to disguise the fact that the real Professor Baxton was down here, plugged into the systems.

**PERI-ALIEN**

I guess that explains it.

**DOCTOR**

Looking at these readings, it explains why the Rani needs me too.

**MIKLEV**

Why?

**DOCTOR**

Because Professor Baxton is barely keeping the systems in order. Her mind can't cope with the conflicting requirements of so many individual brains vying for attention.

**PERI-ALIEN**

And yours could?

**DOCTOR**

Easily. I am the final component of the Rani's plan.

**MIKLEV**

So what do we do about it?

**DOCTOR**

You go back to the corridor and keep watch. Let me know if you see anyone coming.

**MIKLEV**

Will do.

(FX: MIKLEV LEAVES.)

**DOCTOR**

Now then, we have work to do.

**PERI-ALIEN**

(INCREASINGLY TIRED) You really think the Rani is going to betray these people?

**DOCTOR**

These are only their bodies, Peri. The real people are walking about out there in their stolen forms.

**PERI-ALIEN**

So what do we do about it?

**DOCTOR**

I think a little sabotage would be in order, don't you?

CUT TO:

**61. INT. RANI'S LAB — CONTINUOUS**

(FX: MIKLEV WALKS THROUGH. FROM THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE WE HEAR:)

**RANI**

Lizzo — did you leave the door to the lab open? I told you to seal it.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

I did. I'm sure I did.

**RANI**

Forgive me my lack of faith. I trusted you to keep the Doctor guarded, too.

**REEV**

You think they're in there?

**MIKLEV**

(CLOSE, TO HIMSELF) Oh that's not good...

(FX: MIKLEV RUNS BACK TOWARDS THE SCREENED AREA. THE RANI, REEV AND LIZZO ENTER.)

**RANI**

If the Doctor gets in here, he could ruin everything.

CUT TO:

**62. INT. RANI'S LAB SCREENED OFF AREA – CONTINUOUS**

**DOCTOR**

The first thing is to make sure that I can reverse the process and return the students' minds to their own bodies.

**PERI-ALIEN**

(OLD & TIRED) But... but, what will happen to the people in their bodies now? To their minds?

**DOCTOR**

Contrary to the intergalactic criminal code, Peri, possession is not nine-tenths of the [law.]

(FX: PERI KNOCKS A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT WHICH CLATTERS TO THE FLOOR.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

Careful – that's a di-polarising condenser. I told you not to touch anything!

**PERI-ALIEN**

Sorry.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, well, try not to drop anything else. Some of this stuff –

(HE BREAKS OFF AS HE SEES HOW OLD SHE'S BECOME.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

Peri? Are you all right? You look... Oh no...

(FX: MIKLEV RUNS IN.)

**MIKLEV**

(BREATHLESS) The Rani's coming. Quick – we have close this screen.

**PERI-ALIEN**

No. Get away from the controls.

**MIKLEV**

You don't understand.

**DOCTOR**

Yes, she does. Look at her, Miklev.



**MIKLEV**

But – she’s got so, so...

**DOCTOR**

Old.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Move away from the screen. Or I’ll shoot you. Thank you for the gun, Doctor.

**MIKLEV**

Peri?!

**DOCTOR**

But that’s just it – you’re not Peri, are you? I’m sorry, Miklev – your rescue was too late.

(FX: RANI, REEV AND LIZZO ENTER.)

**RANI**

How kind of you to stop by, Doctor. As you can see, the whining Ms Brown has long since been dealt with.

**DOCTOR**

What have you done with her? What have you done with Peri?

**RANI**

Her intelligence, such as it is, has already been incorporated into the system. But don’t worry, you’ll be reunited soon enough... in mind, but not in body!

**END OF PART THREE**

**PART FOUR**

MUSIC: OPENING TITLES

**REPRISE:**

**RANI**

*How kind of you to stop by, Doctor. As you can see, the whining Ms Brown has long since been dealt with.*

**DOCTOR**

*What have you done with her? What have you done with Peri?*

**RANI**

*Her intelligence, such as it is, has already been incorporated into the system. But don't worry, you'll be reunited soon enough... in mind, but not in body!*

(CONTINUES INTO:)

**63. INT. RANI'S LAB SCREENED OFF AREA – CONTINUOUS**

**PERI-ALIEN**

Help me, please. I feel so weak.

**RANI**

Reev – get an auto-injector. I'll take that gun.

**REEV**

Of course.

**MIKLEV**

We have to do something, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

There's nothing we can do, Miklev. Not while the Rani holds all the cards. And the gun.

(FX: THUNK-HISS OF AN AUTO-INJECTOR.)

**MIKLEV**

At least Peri's getting sorted out. Or whoever she really is.

**DOCTOR**

We don't know who any of these people really are.

**RANI**

Then now might be a good time to enlighten you. You realise the sleepers in here are the donors whose minds now inhabit my students?

**MIKLEV**

Yes, we worked that out.

**RANI**

The toothless old man at the end used to be Carlos Milhaven, owner of a multi-planetary industrial conglomerate. Now he is Reev. Next to him is Mira Vandweezi –

**MIKLEV**

As in the benefactor of the Library!

**RANI**

Once, she was president of the Sirian Export Bureau. Now, she is Lizzo.

**DOCTOR**

All important people, then.

**RANI**

Important, and rich.

**DOCTOR**

And which one is now Peri?

**RANI**

The Countess Valadska – there.

**MIKLEV**

But she's ugly. I mean, like hideous.

**RANI**

Old age does that. To some. Others are more fortunate – isn't that right, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

However long-lived we Time Lords may be, no-one cheats death!

**PERI-ALIEN**

(BACK TO 'NORMAL'.) We can. You thought I was ugly, but now I'm young again. Ready to live life to the full.

**MIKLEV**

Someone else's life!

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

You think that matters to us?

**DOCTOR**

It should. Especially as the Rani can't keep the ravages of age at bay for long.

**RANI**

I've told them – it's just a temporary side-effect.

**DOCTOR**

Temporary?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

The Rani has given us new life. We won't let you take that from us.

**RANI**

Sit down, Doctor. Next to Professor Baxton.

**DOCTOR**

For the last time, Rani –

**RANI**

Sit down or watch me laser Peri Brown's head from her shoulders!

**PERI-ALIEN**

You would not...!

**RANI**

Be quiet, Countess. The brain won't be damaged, I can retrieve your scintillating personality afterwards.

**PERI-ALIEN**

But... I'd feel it. It would hurt.

**RANI**

Very probably. But I know the Doctor well enough to know that he's still calculating that he can restore his friend's mind to her body. And he knows me well enough to know that I'm not bluffing!

**MIKLEV**

Doctor...!

BEAT.

**DOCTOR**

(SITTING) Alright, I'll sit, I'll sit...

**RANI**

Connect him up.

(FX: LIZZO AND PERI CONNECT HIM UP.)

**DOCTOR**

You'll have to tell me what you're doing now, if you want me to oversee the systems.

**RANI**

Very true. Lizzo, summon the others. I want them all here when the system finally goes on line.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Yes, Rani. At once.

(FX: LIZZO EXITS.)

**DOCTOR**

Just tell me what it's for.

**RANI**

To give me... an advantage. The ultimate advantage. All Time Lords now that every time-space event creates ripples. Each one grows outwards, larger and larger, causing unforeseen consequences. Well, they won't be unforeseen for long.

**DOCTOR**

You're talking about Chaos Theory again, just like in your lecture.

**RANI**

With this system I'll be able to determine the tiny events I need to set in motion to lead to the larger, long-term consequences I desire. Releasing butterflies to create hurricanes whenever and wherever I choose.

**MIKLEV**

Hurricanes?

**DOCTOR**

She's not talking about the weather, Miklev. (IMPRESSED BUT APPALLED) She means to reverse-engineer Chaos Theory!

**RANI**

Precisely.

CUT TO:

**64. INT. STORE ROOM — DAY**

(FX: TORRENT. AS IF MIC DIPPING UNDERWATER)

FADE OUT:

**65. INT. RANI'S LAB**

(FX: LIZZO OPERATES THE PA.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(INTO MIC) Attention, please. Would all students in Professor Baxton's Study Group 'A' please come to the Medical Facility lower level immediately for a special seminar. Thank you.

(FX: PA CLICKS OFF. PERI AND MIKLEV ENTER FROM OFF.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

The Rani told me bring the boy Miklev in here. – I am not a guard. I am a Countess! She could show me more respect.

**MIKLEV**

Can't you see that what you're doing – all this – it's wrong?!

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

There's no point in running. The others are on their way.

**MIKLEV**

Listen. You can still put things right. Let the Doctor help you put things right.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

And give up our new, young bodies?

**PERI-ALIEN**

Become old and frail and ugly again?

**MIKLEV**

Think about them. The students whose bodies you've stolen.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

'Students.' I built them a library, and all I ask is one body in return.

**PERI-ALIEN**

It's not even a very attractive one.

CUT TO:

**66. INT. RANI'S LAB SCREENED OFF AREA**

**DOCTOR**

What if I want to scratch my nose?

**RANI**

It'd be no trouble to laser it off. – Now, within this system, I have gathered an elite of the most brilliant young minds.

**DOCTOR**

La crème de la crème! – Of course, the trouble with brilliant young minds is that they are apt to be more than a little rebellious. – Remember the Deca? Back at the Academy? You, me, Drax, Mortimus, 'Nosebung' Vansell...

**RANI**

I'd sooner forget.

**DOCTOR**

You know, sometime we should have a proper reunion. Great days, they were! Great days...

**RANI**

No, they were ghastly. – Doctor, now that you've finished reminiscing, I need you to break the habits of your lifetimes and bring some discipline to bear upon my Elite.

**DOCTOR**

Me? I'm no martinet. Could you really find no-one more suitable?

**RANI**

My system is a Matrix in microcosm – a fact that appears to have eluded you thus far.

**DOCTOR**

Ah, you need a bit of the old Gallifreyan brain hardware!

**RANI**

Time Lord synaptic wiring is more suitable, yes. Professor Baxton was merely a stand-in.

**DOCTOR**

That genius mind, an expediency to be discarded? – You'll sacrifice anything and anyone to achieve your own ends. That's the difference between us, isn't it? I value life, all life. You treat it as a glorified experiment.



**RANI**

What are you bleating on about? The bodies that these minds used to inhabit haven't been wasted. I could have let them die.

**DOCTOR**

Am I supposed to be impressed that you didn't? Thankful, even?

**RANI**

I have allowed the old and dying a new lease of life by making use of otherwise useless bodies. And in return for their new lease of life, they have made sizeable financial contributions to this university. I don't know what you're complaining about.

**DOCTOR**

You have helped these poor old rich people to murder – yes, murder! – healthy young students with their whole lives ahead of them.

**RANI**

Rubbish. I just promised them renewed youth. I wasn't specific about how I was planning to deliver it.

**DOCTOR**

You mean you didn't tell them they were stealing other people's bodies?

**RANI**

Once they woke up and found their donor was in effect already dead, they all seemed perfectly at ease with the situation.

**DOCTOR**

Only you, Rani – only you can leave me speechless.

**RANI**

Good. So now you've shut up, I can let the system assimilate your mind and absorb your consciousness into the datastream.

**DOCTOR**

What, you're just going to leave me here?

**RANI**

There is one final mind still to be added to the mix.

**DOCTOR**

You mean Miklev.

**RANI**

He really is quite brilliant. So much potential.

**DOCTOR**

Potential that you are about to snuff out.

**RANI**

Potential that I shall realise and harness. (TURNS TO EXIT) We're making history, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

(CALLING AFTER HER) I have just one last request. Rani! (HER REAL NAME:) Ushas, please..!

**RANI**

(STOPS) Don't call me that.

**DOCTOR**

Let me see Peri.

**RANI**

What, her body?

**DOCTOR**

One last time. Just to remember what she looks like.

**RANI**

Sentimentality was the reason you graduated with just a Double Gamma, Doctor. It was always your downfall. – Oh, very well.

(FX: THE RANI EXITS.)

**DOCTOR**

(TO SELF) One day, Rani, perhaps it will be. But not today, I hope...

CUT TO:

**68. INT. RANI'S LAB — CONTINUOUS**

(FX: THERE ARE ABOUT HALF A DOZEN STUDENTS ARRIVED IN ADDITION TO REEV, LIZZO, AND PERI.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

So what's the next stage?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

I'm sure she'll tell us in a minute.

**REEV**

I thought once she had her precious system up and running, and we were all in our new bodies — (that would be it)

(FX: HE BREAKS OFF AS THE RANI ENTERS.)

**RANI**

Good, you're all here.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

All except the Vice Chancellor.

**RANI**

He's busy. Now, with your help I'm about to make history. I thought you'd like to see.

**PERI-ALIEN**

What about this one?

**MIKLEV**

I do have a name you know.

**RANI**

Not for long. Lizzo, take him to the operating room. His will be the final mind in the system.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

But there isn't anyone to take his body. We've all transferred now.

**RANI**

Then it will die. How sad.

**MIKLEV**

Thanks.

**RANI**

Go on, go! —

(FX: EXIT LIZZO & MIKLEV. DOORS OPEN AND CLOSE, OFF.)

**RANI**

Countess, go and watch over the Doctor. He asked to see that body, anyhow.

**PERI-ALIEN**

He asked what?!

**RANI**

I see no reason not to humour him, it'll make him more compliant.  
— Just do as you're told, woman!

(FX: PERI EXITS OFF.)

**69. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY LOWER CORRIDOR**

(FX: LIZZO AND MIKLEV WALKING.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(WALKING) Stop dragging your heels, Miklev! Or I'll shoot you and transfer your mind from your dying body.

**MIKLEV**

(WALKING) Why not do that anyway?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(WALKING) To spare you pain, of course. We're not savages.

(FX: THE FAINT SOUND OF POURING WATER FROM BEHIND STOREROOM DOOR.)

**MIKLEV**

(STOPPING) What is that?

**LIZZO ALIEN**

What?

**MIKLEV**

It's like [running w-] (DOESN'T SAY 'WATER')

**LIZZO ALIEN**

Just keep moving!

(FX: THEY WALK ON)

**70. INT. RANI'S LAB — CONTINUOUS**

(FX: PERI ENTERS)

**DOCTOR**

Ah, Peri. Or rather, Countess Valadska, wasn't it?

**PERI-ALIEN**

'Peri' is as good a name as any for my new life.

**DOCTOR**

Stealing her name as well as her body? At least you can't have her character.

**PERI-ALIEN**

What do you mean?

**DOCTOR**

The real Peri would never be so heartless, Countess. Peri, and all these students, they had their whole lives ahead of them. You've had yours, and very privileged it was too. A Countess, no less. And back in the days when education was galactically-funded. Not like today. The students whose bodies you've stolen had to scrimp and save to pay for their education.

**PERI-ALIEN**

I've given back more than enough. I paid for the science facility here at the CAGE.

**DOCTOR**

How very magnanimous. You've all done so much. But that is rather the point, isn't it? You've all led your lives to the full. But are you grateful for it, for the opportunities you've had, the friends you've made, the things you've achieved?

**PERI-ALIEN**

Of course I am!

**DOCTOR**

Yet you steal exactly those things from Peri.

**PERI-ALIEN**

We didn't know that was the plan.

**DOCTOR**

But you're happy to go along with it.

**PERI-ALIEN**

There's no other way.

**DOCTOR**

There is always another way. But you don't appreciate that, do you. Any more than you appreciate Peri's jacket.

**PERI-ALIEN**

What do you mean?

**DOCTOR**

Well, you're not wearing it. Probably dumped on the floor somewhere, discarded as easily as you discarded the person who used to wear it.

**PERI-ALIEN**

You can't compare a jacket to a person.

**DOCTOR**

I think that was the point I was making, actually. But if do you want to know about Peri – about the real person whose life you have usurped, then find her jacket. Check the pockets... I wasn't lying you know.

**PERI-ALIEN**

What about?

**DOCTOR**

The rapid ageing. There's no cure. You think you've got a whole new life ahead of you, but you're wrong. You've just stolen someone else's. For nothing.

CUT TO:

**71. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM**

(FX: LIZZO CONNECTING MIKLEV TO THE EQUIPMENT.)

**MIKLEV**

Can't you see that this is wrong?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

You want me to feel guilty about taking someone else's body?

**MIKLEV**

Yes, frankly.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Well I do. But it's too late now. And you know what, I actually like being young again. I like being able to smell and taste and not to ache all over or get out of breath going up stairs.

(FX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES AS PERI ENTERS.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

Is he prepared?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Nearly.

**MIKLEV**

No, he's not. You're never prepared to die. You should both know that - look what you did to avoid it.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Just ignore him.. Oh. (SHE'S SEEN SOMETHING.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

What is it?

**PERI-ALIEN**

Over the back of that chair - it's Peri's jacket.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Your jacket now.

(FX: **PERI** PUTS IT ON AS.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN** (CONT'D)

Yes, it suits you.



**MIKLEV**

Dead girl's body, dead girl's clothes.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Pockets... He said to check the pockets. Oh.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

What is it?

**MIKLEV**

A data-cube. Dead girl's things.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Are you all right finishing here?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

I just need to check the levels.

**PERI-ALIEN**

I'll be back in a minute.

(FX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES AS PERI EXITS.)

CUT TO:

**72. INT. RANI'S LAB SCREENED OFF AREA**

(FX: A SATISFIED 'BONG' FROM THE EQUIPMENT.)

**DOCTOR**

Does that mean I'm cooked?

**RANI**

Your mind is linked to the Overseer program. Professor Baxton's is being detached.

**DOCTOR**

Not as detached as you seem to be.

**RANI**

You should be able to see the data-scape now. Let me adjust the wave receptors and I'll hear what you think of it. Literally.

(FX: FROM INSIDE THE SYSTEM, THE DOCTOR'S THOUGHTS ARE RELAYED THROUGH THE EQUIPMENT — SO A 'MILD' TREATMENT, LIKE HE'S COMING THROUGH ECHOEY LOUDSPEAKERS.)

**DOCTOR**

(D) So many minds. So many people. Oh yes, I can see what you've done.

**RANI**

Good. Then as soon as the program kicks in, your mind will be slaved to the system and bring some order to this mess.

**DOCTOR**

(D) This 'mess' as you call it, is composed of people. Living minds!

**RANI**

Not any more. All individual characteristics, all personality will have decayed. You might be in time to catch the dying thoughts of your friend Peri before she becomes just so much data. But I wouldn't bet on it.

CUT TO:

**73. INT. INSIDE THE COMPUTER SYSTEM – CONTINUOUS**

(FX: CONSTANT MURMURING OF ALL THE MINDS CHATTERING...)

(REAL) PERI

(REAL) LIZZO

(REAL) VICE CHANCELLOR

(REAL) REEV

(JUST INDISTINCT MUMBLING, RECITING NUMBERS AND FORMULAE – EG COUNTING DOWN AND UP FROM 100, OR:)

$(a+b)^3 = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$

$x^4 - y^4 = (x-y)(x+y)(x^2 + y^2)$

$a^5 - b^5 = (a-b)(a^4 + a^3b + a^2b^2 + ab^3 + b^4)$

(FX: THE DOCTOR'S VOICE IS CLOSE AND SLIGHTLY ECHOED.)

**DOCTOR**

Is that true? Is there nothing left of you? Are you all just data within the system now?

FADE OUT:

**74. INT. STORE ROOM**

(FX: PRESSURISED WATER)

FADE OUT:

**75. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM**

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Where's Peri? I need her to operate the cerebral balance compensators.

**MIKLEV**

(AFRAID BUT HIDING IT) I'm happy to wait.

(FX: LIZZO EXITS, CALLING:)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Peri - where are you?

CUT TO:

**76. INT. OFFICE IN MEDICAL FACILITY**

(FX: PERI-ALIEN IS PLAYING BACK THE DATA-CUBE RECORDING OF THE REAL PERI FROM PART ONE:)

**PERI**

(PLAYBACK) *We help people. There are a lot of people who need helping. For all his brashness and posturing, the Doctor always stands up for what's right. [Truth, justice, and the Gallifreyan way. He doesn't seem to care that one day it might get him killed.]*

(FX: LIZZO ENTERS. OVER THE RECORDING:)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

There you are. What are you doing?

**PERI-ALIEN**

It's on the data-cube she had in her pocket.

**PERI**

(PLAYBACK) *Actually, I've seen him die. He died for me. He thought I was worth saving. I sometimes wonder if one day, I'll end up returning the favour. This is crazy, it's like I'm writing my own obituary. Oh - here he comes now. Cue danger and excitement.*

(FX: PLAYBACK ENDS. LIZZO AND PERI'S REACTIONS ARE SUBDUED, AMBIVALENT - THEY HAVE BOTH BEEN AFFECTED, BUT DON'T WANT TO SHOW IT.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

She got more danger and excitement than she bargained for.

**PERI-ALIEN**

I think... I think she was a good person.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

But in the end, that didn't help her, did it? Is there anything else on the cube?

**PERI-ALIEN**

Er, yes. There's another recording.

(FX: SPEEDED-UP FAST-FORWARDING SOUND, THEN CLICK. THE PLAYBACK IS THE RECORDING OF THE Q&A AT BAXTON'S LECTURE, IN PART ONE:)

**BAXTON**

*[...] life – a single human life – is subordinate to the advance of Humanity as a whole. Wouldn't you make the same decision?*

**DOCTOR**

*I certainly would not. Not in a million years. If the fate of the universe itself was at stake, I could not with a clear conscience sacrifice a single life to save it. Though I have to say, I would give my own gladly. But my own life is the only one I have to offer.*

**BAXTON**

*Then it's probably as well that neither of us is ever likely to be in a position where we have to choose.*

(FX: PLAYBACK CLICKS OFF.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

"My own life is the only one I have to..." – Are you all right?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(AGEING) Just tired.

**PERI-ALIEN**

You look tired. And old.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Again? Already? It isn't long since... I have an auto-injector here somewhere.

(FX: THUNK-HISS OF THE AUTO-INJECTOR.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

It's happening quicker now, isn't it?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(RECOVERING) Yes. Yes, it is.

**PERI-ALIEN**

The Doctor said... Where can I access the Medical Facility's main database?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

There's a terminal in the next office.

(FX: THEY EXIT INTO:)

**77. INT. INSIDE THE COMPUTER SYSTEM**

(FX: THE MURMURING CONTINUES.)

**DOCTOR**

(D; DESPERATE) Talk to me – someone! There must be something left, some scintilla of individuality somewhere!

(THE MURMURING REMAINS INDISTINCT, HOMOGENOUS.)

CUT TO:

**78. INT. ANOTHER OFFICE MEDICAL FACILITY**

(FX: LIZZO AND PERI ENTER. PERI SEARCHES THROUGH DATA.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

What are you looking for?

**PERI-ALIEN**

The Rani says we'll have to use those auto-injectors for the rest of our lives.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Inconvenient, but better than the alternative. So what?

**PERI-ALIEN**

So she must have stocks of the anti-toxin ready. Only, there's hardly any of it in the inventory.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

What? That must be a mistake.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Unless the Doctor was telling the truth, and there really is no cure.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

(GETTING DESPERATE) No, you're wrong. The Rani will have hidden the stock. She used this office earlier, didn't she? Perhaps she's hidden the auto-injectors in here.

(FX: LIZZO PULLS OPEN THE DESK DRAWERS, GETTING FRANTIC.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

Lizzo - she's lied to us. She's betrayed us!

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

No! It's just a mistake. Here - in this store cupboard - that's where -

(FX: SHE YANKS OPEN THE DOORS. VICE-CHANCELLOR'S BODY FLOPS OUT ONTO FLOOR.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Aah!

**PERI-ALIEN**

It's the Vice Chancellor.



**LIZZO-ALIEN**

He's dead. I'd say he died of old age, except...

**PERI-ALIEN**

...Except he's been shot through the head. He was the first to transfer to a new body. The first to suffer side effects.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

We're all going to end up like this, aren't we? We're all going to die!

CUT TO:

**79. INT. STORE ROOM — DAY**

(FX: PRESSURISED WATER.)

**80. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY OPERATING ROOM**

**MIKLEV**

(TO HIMSELF) I suppose I've had a good life... And I'm not dead yet.

(FX: DOORS OPEN AND CLOSE AS LIZZO AND PERI ENTER.)

**MIKLEV (CONT'D)**

Strike that. I'm dead.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Miklev. We've come to get you out of here.

(FX: AS LIZZO AND PERI DISCONNECT MIKLEV.)

**MIKLEV**

What? — Why?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

We thought you'd be grateful.

**81. INT. INSIDE THE COMPUTER SYSTEM**

(FX: MURMURING, AS BEFORE)

**DOCTOR**

Surely something has survived?!

(FX: MURMURING RESOLVES ITSELF INTO 'PROPER' VOICES, TREATED TO BE SLIGHTLY UNREAL.)

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Who's interrupting?

**REEV**

Doesn't he know we've got work to do here?

**LIZZO**

Perhaps he has something to add?

**PERI**

Doctor? Doctor is that you?

**DOCTOR**

Peri! Yes, it's me.

**PERI**

It's kinda intense in here, Doctor...

**DOCTOR**

Something of an academic hothouse, certainly.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Where's Professor Baxton gone?

**REEV**

She was leading our discussion.

**DOCTOR**

Leading your—? Ah, I see. Yes, of course. Good old Baxton!

CROSS TO:

**82. INT. RANI'S LAB SCREENED OFF AREA – CONTINUOUS**

(FX: THE DOCTOR IS FILTERED THROUGH SPEAKERS WHEN SPEAKING WITHIN THE SYSTEM – AS INDICATED. OTHERWISE HE SPEAKS 'NORMALLY'.)

**DOCTOR**

(D) ... Can you hear me, Professor?

**RANI**

You should be slaved to the Overseer program by now, Doctor. Get on with your work!

**DOCTOR**

(D) You thought Professor Baxton couldn't control the system, but that's not true.

**RANI**

What?

**DOCTOR**

(D) The Professor was deliberately encouraging the processed minds to think for themselves. Stimulating debate and discussion between them, like a seminar group. Exercising their minds – keeping them alive!

(FX: PERI, LIZZO, MIKLEV AND THE STUDENTS ENTERED WHILE THE DOCTOR WAS TALKING.)

**MIKLEV**

Does that mean their minds can be restored to their bodies?

**RANI**

You?! What are you doing here? – Out, all of you!

**PERI-ALIEN**

You lied to us.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

We're all going to die.

**REEV**

Peri and Lizzo have discovered the truth, Rani.

**RANI**

Don't think of yourselves when we can achieve so much. I just need to boost the power and the minds inside will die. Including the Doctor's.

**PERI-ALIEN**

Is what you said true, Doctor? Can the students' minds be restored?

**DOCTOR**

(D) Yes, I believe they can.

**RANI**

He knows nothing! Get back on the other side of the screen, or I'll shoot the lot of you.

**MIKLEV**

I think she means it.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

She can't escape.

**PERI-ALIEN**

There's no other way out.

**REEV**

If you close the screen, we'll just slide it open again.

**DOCTOR**

(D) Do as she says. The Rani will shoot you. You can't risk your lives for us.

(FX: THE STUDENTS MOVE BEHIND THE SCREEN. THE RANI OPERATES A CONTROL AND A WALL SLIDES ACROSS — METALLIC AND HEAVY — SLAMMING INTO PLACE AGAINST ANOTHER WALL.)

**RANI**

The advantages of a Magna-struct building. Instant wall.

**DOCTOR**

They'll soon work out how to demagnetise it. You can't keep them out forever.

**RANI**

I don't have to. Soon they'll all age to death. Now keep quiet while I reroute the university power grid through your control systems. That will be enough to burn out any resistance still in there..

CUT TO:

**83. INT. RANI'S LAB (OTHER SIDE OF THE SCREEN/WALL) – CONTINUOUS**

**MIKLEV**

We should have stayed. We could have rushed her.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

And died in the attempt?

**MIKLEV**

Don't you get it? You're dying anyway!

**PERI-ALIEN**

He's right.

**REEV**

(OLD AND TIRED) I'm not giving up this body. Not even –  
(HE BREAKS OFF.)

**REEV (CONT'D)**

(GASPS IN HORROR) My hand – look at my hand. It's so old!

**PERI-ALIEN**

Not even to let someone else live their life to the full?

CUT TO:

**84. INT. INSIDE THE COMPUTER SYSTEM – CONTINUOUS**

**LIZZO**

It's getting hot.

**REEV**

Burning.

**PERI**

Doctor – what's happening?

**DOCTOR**

It's the Rani. She's routed the entire university power system through here to render us to pure data.

**PERI**

(IN PAIN) Doctor – it hurts!

**DOCTOR**

I can see it. Every node and link on the network. I'm the Overseer, I can see it all.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

Can you stop it?

**DOCTOR**

Better than that. But I need your help – all of you, working together. Not as individuals but as a team.

**VICE CHANCELLOR**

The heat...

**REEV**

Unbearable heat...

**DOCTOR**

Then think of something cold. Think of – yes, think of snow!

**PERI**

Snow?

**DOCTOR**

A single snowflake can't cause an avalanche. Not on its own. But all of us together... Focus – there, that power router... And there – that opening mechanism. Focus!

**PERI/REEV/LIZZO/VICE CHANCELLOR**

Focus! Focus! Focus! Focus!

**85. INT. RANI'S LAB – CONTINUOUS**

**RANI**

Get out of that, you garrulous simpleton!

**DOCTOR**

(D; WITH EFFORT) Simpleton, am I?

(FX: POWER DRAINS AWAY – EQUIPMENT RUNS DOWN.)

**RANI**

Everything's powering down. – Doctor, what have you done?

**DOCTOR**

(D) I've simply diverted the power away from your systems. There's enough to keep us alive in here, but not for your computations.

**RANI**

You can't keep that up for- [ever] (DOUBLE TAKE) Diverted? Where to?

(FX: A DISTINCTIVE 'BLEEP-BLEEP' AND THEN THE WALL SLIDES OPEN.)

**RANI**

The Magna-struct controls!

**DOCTOR**

(D) Focus, everyone! We're trying to build a cage!

(FX: STUDENTS RUSH IN.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

Stop her!

**DOCTOR**

(D) Now what are you lot doing? – Focus!!!

**RANI**

All of you, keep back! Keep back, or I'll shoot! – You haven't won, Doctor. As soon as I get back to my TARDIS I shall simply set up again somewhere else, away from your meddling. (SHE RUNS OUT)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Come on, get after her!



(FX: THE STUDENTS RUN AFTER THE RANI. MIKLEV DISCONNECTS THE EQUIPMENT.)

**MIKLEV**

Doctor, are you all right? Let me get you out of this thing.

(FX: HOOD RAISED AS BEFORE)

**DOCTOR**

Thank you. But we were about to imprison the Rani in her own Magna-struct walls!

**PERI-ALIEN**

The others have gone after her.

**MIKLEV**

It's too late, isn't it? She's going to get away.

**DOCTOR**

I wouldn't be so sure about that. I saw something ever so interesting on the security cameras earlier...

CUT TO:

**86. INT. MEDICAL FACILITY LOWER CORRIDOR – CONTINUOUS**

(FX: RANI RUNS UP TO DOOR; LIZZO, REEV AND OTHER STUDENTS BEHIND.)

**RANI**

Get back! – I'm warning you, girl, I shan't let you stop me.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Stop you from what?

**REEV**

That's the chemical stores, there's no way out of there.

**RANI**

It's where my TARDIS is hidden, idiot. Now – get back!

(FX: BLEEP. NEGATIVE BUZZ SOUND.)

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Locked out, are you?

**RANI**

The mechanism's shorted out for some reason.

**REEV**

Maintenance in this university is terrible.

**RANI**

Easily fixed with a quick blast from this –

(FX: SHOOTS LASER GUN. FIZZ AS DOOR MECHANISM IS BLOWN OUT.)

**RANI**

Goodbye. I can't say it's been [pleasant.] (PULLS TO SLIDE OPEN DOOR)

(FX: A TORRENT OF WATER FLOODS OUT, ENGULFING RANI)

**STUDENTS**

(CRY OUT IN SURPRISE)

**RANI**

(SPLUTTERING, WASHED DOWN CORRIDOR) Doctor – this is your doing!

**REEV**

(OLD) Someone, grab her!

(FX: DOCTOR, MIKLEV AND PERI RUN UP, SPLASHING THROUGH WATER)

**PERI-ALIEN**

What happened?

**DOCTOR**

I'd say someone left the tap running. Miklev-!

**MIKLEV**

(GRABBING RANI) Got her!

**RANI**

Get your paws off me, you – you revolting student!

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

A tap left running caused all that?!

**DOCTOR**

Not directly, no. I'm guessing the sink overflowed, causing the electrical sockets to short... which caused a spark, bang, which knocked one of those canisters of chemicals into the water pooling on the floor... potassium, probably?

**RANI**

(GROAN) A pyrophoric reaction!

**DOCTOR**

There speaks the chemist, exactly. Whompf! A puff of flame caused the sprinklers to be activated..

**MIKLEV**

But not the alarm?

**DOCTOR**

Possibly, but you'd cut the power to the whole Facility by then, I expect. So the sensor that should have cut the sprinklers out was never tripped, so the water level continued to rise until the volume caused the entire shelf unit to tip over, crash, into the sink – severing the main water pipe. With a capacity of, what, one hundred and sixty cubic feet, that little storeroom would soon fill up with, er... (SNAPS FINGERS) Miklev?

**MIKLEV**

(CALCULATING) One thousand two hundred gallons of water?

**RANI**

One thousand one hundred and ninety-six.

**DOCTOR**

There you are. The hurricane caused by the beat of a butterfly's wings.

(FX: DISTANT SIRENS OUTSIDE – FUTURISTIC POLICE VEHICLES.)

**PERI-ALIEN**

Listen. Sirens!

**MIKLEV**

That was me, sorry. I sent for Galactic Security when I was in the V-C's Office. You know - like you suggested, Doctor.

**RANI**

You did what?!

**DOCTOR**

The police in this sector of space are marvellous. They'll have you scheduled for trial before you can say 'Honorary Degree in Moral Philosophy.'

**RANI**

(SCOFFS) Police! I don't abide by petty laws and restrictions.

**DOCTOR**

No, you never did. And in this instance, neither do I. - Let her go, Miklev.

**PERI-ALIEN**

What?

**MIKLEV**

Doctor, you can't be serious.

**DOCTOR**

She's guilty of first-degree murder. That's a mandatory full-life term in this sector of space.

**RANI**

Let alone all the historical charges they might want to take into consideration.

**DOCTOR**

Miasimia Goria, yes. But the thing is, Miklev - she and I are Time Lords. Immortal, barring accidents.

**RANI**

A full life term - to us, that's a cruel and unusual punishment.

**DOCTOR**

Too cruel. Please, Miklev. Let her go.

**MIKLEV**

If – if you're sure... (RELEASES RANI)

**DOCTOR**

I still remember her as she was, in her Academy days. The brightest star of all of us, in so many ways. I suppose I still hope that one day, she might yet redeem herself.

**RANI**

(HARSHLY) You're a sentimental fool, Doctor.

**DOCTOR**

Almost anyone else in the universe would mean that as a compliment.

**RANI**

Goodbye, Doctor. (WALKING AWAY, SPLASHING THROUGH WATER) This little encounter has only made the memory of what I'll one day do to your current incarnation all the more enjoyable.

**PERI-ALIEN**

What's she mean, 'memory'?

**DOCTOR**

It means... she's met me in my future, but her past. (CALLING INTO AIR) Can you hear me, you lot in the system? – Focus! Focus!!!

**RANI**

(CALLING BACK) Too late, Doctor!!!

(FX: SUDDEN DISTINCTIVE DEMAGNETISING 'BLEEP-BLEEP')

**RANI**

Wait. What's that [noise]

(FX: ... AND THE FLOOR UNDER THE RANI SLIDES AWAY. WATER POURING AWAY WITH HER AS SHE FALLS DOWN THE HOLE)

**RANI**

(CRIES OUT AND FALLS SOME DISTANCE. SPLASH)

**DOCTOR**

(CALLING OUT) Now seal her in! (FX: MAGNASTRUCT FLOOR SLIDES OVER THE HOLE) She can stay down there 'til Galactic Security arrive.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

You demagnetised the floor...?

**DOCTOR**

It's not just the walls that are made by Magna-struct, you know.

**MIKLEV**

All that you said – that was playing for time?

**DOCTOR**

Giving my friends a chance to get the panels in order.  
Tesselation. Complicated.

**PERI-ALIEN**

So you're not going to let her get away with it?

**DOCTOR**

Certainly not. They can throw away the key so far as I'm  
concerned. The only question is... what are we to do with you lot,  
hm?

**87. INT. MAGNASTRUCT WELL**

(FX: THE RANI SEALED INTO A CELL MADE OF MAGNASTRUCT. WAIST DEEP IN WATER. CALLING UP)

**RANI**

Let me out of here! Doctor! I demand you let me out of here! I'm a scientist not, not – some third-rated Double Gamma! (DESPERATE, BANGING WALLS) Let me out! I'll kill you! Doctor! You don't know it, but I will kill you! (SLUMPS BACK, GIVING UP) Yes, I'll kill you, Doctor. And sooner than you think...!

**88. INT. RANI'S LAB — LATER**

(FADE IN:)

**DOCTOR**

You're sure you want to go ahead with this?

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

We've discussed it, and we all agree.

**PERI-ALIEN**

We've had our time. We've lived our lives once. Now it's someone else's turn.

**MIKLEV**

Especially as it was agree to the Doctor's proposal or get locked up by Galactic Security until you suddenly age to death.

**REEV**

The Rani tricked us. Even though we didn't know what was going to happen...

**PERI-ALIEN**

...We shouldn't have gone with the flow.

**DOCTOR**

For what it's worth, no single drop of water believes it's responsible for the flood. You've made the right choice. At last.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

You can put us safely into the computer system?

**DOCTOR**

I can. The minds in the Rani's system are still conscious and sentient, so I can effect a total reverse transfer. You'll survive inside the system, just as the students did.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

Then we're not dead yet. Not really.

**PERI-ALIEN**

And while there's life...

**DOCTOR**

The only person I can't restore is the Vice Chancellor. But he's agreed to remain inside the system as Overseer. He'll make sure your minds remain active, stimulating debate and discussion.



**MIKLEV**

You've all got a lot of experience to draw on.

**LIZZO-ALIEN**

It could get quite lively.

**DOCTOR**

I'm counting on it. You'll be a formidable and useful resource for the university's research projects. The ultimate Brains Trust. Right, if you'd all take your places?

(FX: THE STUDENTS HOOK THEMSELVES UP.)

**DOCTOR (CONT'D)**

And Miklev, if you come over here.

**MIKLEV**

What do you want me to do, Doctor?

**DOCTOR**

I want you to press this button. And get your friends back.

**MIKLEV**

Now?

**DOCTOR**

Now.

(FX: **MIKLEV** PRESSES THE BUTTON — A RISING HUM OF POWER, THEN CUT TO:)

**89. INT. LECTURE THEATRE — DAY**

(FX: APPLAUSE. IT FADES AS BAXTON SPEAKS, OVER MICROPHONE TO A PACKED AUDIENCE:)

**[REAL] BAXTON**

And now, in the unfortunate absence of the Vice Chancellor, it falls to me to present this Medal of Supreme Excellence to Student Miklev.

(FX: APPLAUSE.)

**MIKLEV**

(STEPPING FORWARD FROM SIDE OF STAGE) Thank you, Professor Baxton.

(FX: APPLAUSE FADES.)

**BAXTON** (CONT'D)

And we are also awarding an honorary degree...

**PERI**

(LOW) Here we go.

**DOCTOR**

(LOW) How do I look?

**BAXTON**

... in Botany, To Miss Perpugilliam Brown.

(FX: APPLAUSE.)

**PERI**

(SURPRISED) What? To me?

**DOCTOR**

Don't be so surprised. No one deserves it more. Well, except perhaps — me. (PUSHES HER) Go on, then!

**PERI**

(WALKING UP TO BAXTON) Thank you, I don't know what to say.

**BAXTON**

And finally, it gives me great pleasure to award this honorary degree in Moral Philosophy to... the Doctor.

(FX: RIOTOUS APPLAUSE.)

**DOCTOR**

Oh thank you. Thank you so much. It is thoroughly deserved of course. Thank you.

(FX: AS THE APPLAUSE FADES:)

**DOCTOR** (CONT'D)

Actually, if I could say just a few words... I have some notes here somewhere, if you'll bear with me.

(FX: THE DOCTOR UNFOLDS A LARGE SHEAF OF PAPERS — LOTS OF RUSTLING. WE CAN BE IN NO DOUBT THAT THIS WILL BE A LONG SPEECH.)

**DOCTOR** (CONT'D)

Here we are.

**PERI**

Doctor, just how long is that speech?

**DOCTOR**

Yes, settle down there at the back, please. Now, accustomed as I am to public speaking...

(FX: BUT, PERHAPS FORTUNATELY, THE CLOSING THEME DROWNS OUT WHATEVER HE HAS TO SAY.)

**THE END**